

Jobless rate falls below 10 per cent

New total of 2,714,000 is lowest for five years

- Unemployment last month fell below 10 per cent for the first time in more than five years
- Mrs Thatcher hailed a new age of prosperity for Britain and said it had its highest ever standard of living
- Mr Norman Fowler predicted further falls, despite the expected slowdown in the economy
- Financial markets were boosted by a narrowing of the US trade deficit and growing hopes of an early budget deal

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Unemployment fell sharply again last month to push the jobless rate below 10 per cent for the first time in more than five years.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, predicted a further fall in unemployment, in spite of the expected slowdown in the economy.

"It's a strong position," he said at a briefing yesterday. "I

Anger at new union measures

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Fresh controversy erupted over the Government's new employment Bill yesterday when it emerged that unions will have to hold secret ballots on 'go-slows, overtime bans and other forms of industrial action.

The disclosure, made by Mr John Goss, the Minister of State for Employment, as the Bill's committee stage got under way, was immediately denounced by opposition MPs.

Hitherto it was thought that the Bill enabled a union member to obtain a court order only if he was asked to take action not endorsed by a secret ballot that would involve him breaking his contract of employment.

However, the Bill allows court orders on any industrial action that could affect the 'performance' of a contract.

Angry opposition MPs argued that the wording of the Bill would prevent unions from taking any action at all. By 10 votes to five, they lost an amendment which would have restricted ballots to actions involving a breach of contract.

IN PART 2

Tunnel money

Eurotunnel should hear today that it has the City backing to complete the financing of the Channel Tunnel project, with £350 million of shares being underwritten. Page 25

Sponsor blow

The future of coverage of American football on Channel 4 was thrown into doubt when Budweiser unexpectedly withdrew its sponsorship. Page 47

Portfolio Gold

- The £8,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner on Wednesday, was won by a reader in south Devon. Details, page 3.
- Portfolio list, page 39.

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Prince William plays at being a motorcycle patrol policeman during a visit to the headquarters of the officers who escort the Royal Family's cars. More photographs, page 24.

Dalyell expelled after more Commons uproar

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Senior ministers last night voiced concern over damage to the reputation of the Commons after a second successive day of rowdy behaviour culminated in the expulsion of Mr Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP.

He was suspended from the Commons for five days for calling the Prime Minister a liar.

Conservative backbenchers were expressing disquiet about the growing challenges to the authority of the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, after more than 100 Labour MPs, including three junior whips, voted against his decision to name Mr Dalyell.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's Deputy Leader, abstained on the motion to name Mr Dalyell.

The size of the vote against his expulsion was highly unusual. In a clear breach of

Commons etiquette the MPs applauded him as he left the chamber after the vote.

The unruliness involving MPs on both sides came despite a call from Mr Weatherill, in the wake of the angry scenes after the loss of Wednesday's Commons business, for good behaviour and for MPs to give a lead to the nation on good standards.

Mr Weatherill first ran into trouble yesterday with the Conservative backbencher, Mr Bill Walker, who referred to allegations about four Scottish Labour MPs in a television programme. After protests the Speaker required him to withdraw his remarks.

Mr Dalyell then raised with Mr John Wakeham, the Leader of the Commons, the role of the Prime Minister in the Westland affair.

By saying that she had not known about the role of Mr

Leon Brittan in the leaking of the Solicitor General's letter she had told "a necessary and indispensable lie."

His allegation brought furious Conservative protests. Mr Weatherill gave him repeated opportunities to withdraw the remark. When he refused the Speaker named him and the division took place.

By tradition the opposition front bench votes to comply with rulings of the Speaker.

Mr Frank Dobson, the shadow Commons leader, said later: "I voted with the Speaker because it is his duty to uphold the rules of the House. But I am convinced that this matter will never go away until the Prime Minister comes clean on what actually happened. Practically everybody on the Labour benches does not believe her story about what happened over Westland."

Parliament, page 4

Summit doubts after deadlock in arms talks

By Christopher Walker in Moscow, Mohsin Ali in Washington, and Michael Evans in London

A breakdown between the United States and the Soviet Union in the final negotiations on the intermediate nuclear forces treaty was made public by Moscow yesterday.

The Kremlin complained that Washington had at the eleventh hour demanded the right to inspect Soviet intercontinental ballistic missile production plants as part of the verification process.

The "deadlock" appeared to be so serious that senior US diplomatic sources were warn-

monitoring "procedure, under which US inspectors would be able to observe missiles coming out of the factory from the perimeter fence to ensure that there were no SS20s hidden among the SS25s. The Soviet Union would have a similar right to demand inspection of American plants.

The US officials in London

said yesterday that, if this

issue were not resolved, there

would be a "relating loophole"

in the verification regime for

an INF treaty. In Moscow, one

Western diplomatic source

said: "It is a real roadblock. It

is a make-or-break issue as far

as ratification of the treaty by

Congress is concerned."

Washington - Mr Gorbachev plans to arrive here on Monday, December 7 for the summit and is due to leave on December 10, the White House said last night (Mohsin Ali writes). President Reagan is likely to give a state dinner on Tuesday night, with Mr Gorbachev hosting a return dinner the following night.

ing last night that, unless the Soviet side changed its new "rigid" posture, the summit in Washington on December 7 could be in danger.

In Moscow yesterday, Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the chief Kremlin spokesman, claimed in an interview with *Pravda* that the Americans had introduced new proposals which were unacceptable to Moscow. He denied that the Soviet Union was responsible for delaying agreement on an intermediate nuclear forces (INF) treaty - as had been alleged by US officials in Washington.

He told the Communist Party newspaper: "The difficulties were brought about by last-minute, final-curtain proposals from the United States to include Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) in inspection measures to ensure the absence of intermediate missiles."

But American officials immediately hit back, saying that the total US verification package was laid before the Soviet negotiators in August. Although it was not made public, the details included a clause which would give both sides the right to inspect ICBM facilities suspected of covertly manufacturing INF missiles.

The US split over to Moscow that verification should include any "ground-launched ballistic missile production factory" making weapons with a range of 300 miles upwards.

The particular US fear is that the Kremlin could cheat by continuing to produce the intermediate-range SS20 - to be eliminated under the INF treaty - within the same factories now making the new mobile ICBM, the 6,500-mile range SS25 Sickle.

In London, US officials said that Washington had proposed "a perimeter portal

The Times: another landmark

● The Times reaches another landmark tomorrow, when it will have carried more than one thousand columns of advertising in a week for the first time in its 202-year history.

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Markets take cheer from US trade boost

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Optimism returned to the world's financial markets yesterday as figures were published showing a narrowing of the US trade deficit, and hopes grew of an early budget deal in Washington.

The White House said agreement on reducing the budget deficit was very close, adding to the confident mood brought about by the announcement of a narrowing of the US trade deficit to \$14.08 billion (£8 billion) in September, from \$15.68 billion (£8.9 billion) in August. The budget deal was thought to involve a first-year deficit reduction of about \$30 billion.

The FT-SE 100 index rose by 63.2 points to 1,702.5, adding £11.3 billion to share values.

From the low point on Tuesday morning the index has risen by more than 180 points.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was 65.82 points higher at 1,965.02 in mid-afternoon trading. The dollar rose by nearly two pennies to DM1.6615 and pushed the pound down by 1.7 cents to \$1.7625.

National Westminster cut its mortgage rate by 1 per cent to 10.25 per cent, with effect for new borrowers today, and for existing borrowers from December 1. Barclays announced a cut from 11.25 to 10.3 per cent, with effect for new and existing borrowers on December 1.

IRA bomb 'a political operation'

A former Irish cabinet minister today claims that the IRA bomb that killed 11 people as they waited for the Armistice Day parade at Enniskillen was not an act of mindless violence but a deliberate political move.

Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien says that the bomb explosion last Sunday "was planned by the IRA - a crucial part of their campaign to force Protestants into revenge attacks, believing that it could finally force the British Government to pull out of the province."

Dr O'Brien's views (Ireland's time bomb, page 16) came as the IRA and its supporters continued to make excuses for the bomb.

BCal puts £200m tag on BA merger proposal

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Caledonian is not prepared to merge with British Airways for less than £200 million, it emerged yesterday.

Sir Adam Thomson, chairman of BCal, and other board members, believe that the airline is doing sufficiently well to command a price close to the £237 million offered last July. However, British Airways is likely to open the bidding at about £120 million.

Bankers and financial advisers on both sides met separately yesterday to draw up negotiating positions for talks next week. It was clear that there is a wide gulf in the value each puts on the airline and the chances of a merger being sealed are thought to be less than 50 per cent.

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Defiant Scargill to resign and seek re-election

By Tim Jones

Mr Arthur Scargill is standing down as president of the National Union of Mineworkers and putting himself forward for re-election.

The move was seen as his attempt to maintain power within the union which is divided over the limited overtime ban it is operating against British Coal's disciplinary code and the issue of six-day working.

Mr Scargill said: "If Mrs Thatcher and the Tories don't want me, if Sir Robert Haslam and the Coal Board don't want me, if the mass media don't want me I can think of no better credentials for supporting me in the election."

His decision, taken as the union's national executive committee met in

Sheffield, came the day after Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal, said it was "impossible to develop a working relationship" with Mr Scargill.

Regional union leaders who were his closest allies now oppose him. Mr Des Dufield, leader of the South Wales miners told him recently: "With you on Labour's side we would not want many enemies. Your condemnation (of the South Wales leadership) is utterly disgusting and I am ashamed and deplore such remarks from the President of the National Union of Mineworkers."

Mr Scargill has consistently been defeated by his own executive committee on the issue of hardening the eight-week-old limited overtime ban which has cost the industry £20 mil-

lion in lost production and his members £12 million in lost wages.

NUM members are also angry that they will not receive a 4.28 per cent pay rise until the action ends. It was given to those in the Union of Democratic Mineworkers last week.

The NUM is openly divided over whether to accept British Coal's ultimatum that major new investment can only be contemplated with six-day working.

While areas such as South Wales, where pits are threatened, have accepted the principle, Mr Scargill has condemned it as "destructive."

Mr Scargill said he wanted to be in the same category as other full-time NUM officials who have to apply for re-election every five years.

When the Employment Bill becomes law next year, he will be forced to seek re-election every five years.

Nominations for the presidency will run from next Monday until December 14, with the pit-head ballot on January 22. Candidates could include Mr Dufield, Mr John Walsh, a moderate from Yorkshire and Mr George Bolton and Mr Eric Clarke, respectively president and general secretary of the Scottish area.

Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Employment spokesman, said: "He is very wise to go now. No one wants to be pushed. I have no doubt he will succeed." Mr Meacher added that it was better that the election was to be on a matter of principle rather than personality.

NEWS SUMMARY

IRA newspaper condemns bomb

The IRA is tearing itself apart over "the monumental error" of the Enniskillen bomb outrage, the organization's weekly newspaper said last night.

The *Republican News*, in an editorial, conceded that the republican movement was shocked and shaken by the blast which killed 11 people and injured more than 60.

It said the consequences would be with the organization for a long time, "because of our sorrow and because our enemies, the enemies of the Irish people, are so strong and have been strengthened by it".

Meanwhile, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, told the Commons yesterday that he expects the Irish government to ratify the Extradition Treaty next month in the wake of terrorist outrages.

Mr Neil Kinnock met Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, for private talks last night on the republic's implementation of the Act.

Earlier, Mr Kinnock called on Hackney, north London, council, to withdraw a speaking invitation to Mr Alex Maskey, Sinn Féin leader at Belfast City Hall.

● The last two victims of the Enniskillen bombing were buried yesterday. They were Billy and Nessie Mullan, both aged in their seventies.

● Anthony McNeill, aged 25, of Belfast, appeared before the special criminal court in Dublin last night charged with falsely imprisoning Mr John O'Grady, the dentist.

BA fraud Police cut man fined red tape

A businessman who made 50 applications for British Airways shares was fined £2,500 at Bow Street magistrates court, central London, yesterday.

John Barker, aged 40, of High Leigh, Knutsford, Cheshire, used the names of his employees, including one who had died in 1983, to apply for the shares and would have made a profit of £6,000.

Barker, who admitted five specimen charges of attempted deception, was also ordered to pay £500 costs. He was said to have been misled by a stockbroker.

Thames Valley police, one of Britain's largest forces, believes it can put 80 officers back on the beat by cutting paperwork by 4 per cent.

The force is paying a firm of management consultants £13,000 to help to reduce the 24 per cent of time spent by operational officers filling in some of the 850 forms, Mr Colin Smith, the chief constable, said yesterday.

In a report to his police authority's finance committee, Mr Smith said there were, however, "few administrative short cuts" in relation to collecting and recording evidence.

EEC gives storm cash

Britain received more than £200,000 from the EEC yesterday to help pay for last month's storm damage.

Yesterday, southern England was again mopping up after its wettest November day for eight years.

Meanwhile the first snow was recorded in the Peak District in Derbyshire.

Steel sale 20 pupils on cards mugged

Prospects of British Steel being privatized have sharply increased.

Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is understood to believe that the corporation's improved performance makes it a good candidate for privatization in 1990 or 1991.

The future of the Ravenscraig steel works in Scotland must be resolved before the Government makes any decision.

Three youths lined up 50 fifth form pupils and stole from 20 of them as they waited for their teachers outside an ice rink in central Birmingham.

The boys and girls, aged 15, from Moseley Secondary School, were said to have been "systematically searched and robbed". They thought the youths were ice-cream officials until they started kicking them.

Police are hunting three youths aged about 18.

Long-term jobless to be given literacy training

By Ronald Faux
Employment Affairs
Correspondent

Intensive coaching in literacy and numeracy is to be given to the long-term unemployed on the Job Training Scheme.

Only 22,111 candidates have enrolled on the scheme against a target last September of 110,000. The drop out rate has been more than 60 per cent in some areas and radical changes are planned to save

the scheme by making it more attractive to trade unions and employers.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, is expected to announce within the next few days stronger links between JTS and the Community Programme scheme, which is to have a larger training element.

The Government is also financing a national scheme which gives up to five weeks of

intensive training to JTS candidates to improve their abilities to read, write, add up and cope with interviews.

Managing agents in south-east England report that at least two-thirds of the long-term unemployed who join JTS have serious problems in reading, writing or re-adjusting to a working life, and that the month allowed to find a placement in industry is proving far too short.

Companies asked to support the scheme say that many of the candidates sent to them are incapable of being trained.

One agent said: "Some people have not used these skills since leaving school and they need to be revived. It is unfair to expect the employers to shoulder the moral burden of taking on people who have no realistic prospect of completing a JTS course."

The Department of Em-

ployment has allocated £1 billion to JTS and is currently running an advertising campaign.

The unions see JTS as a device for pegging wages and providing cheap labour outside the Employment Protection laws. Their opposition has been endorsed by most local authorities.

Many councils and large private employers have shied away from the scheme for fear

of provoking industrial relations problems.

The most fundamental change the Government could introduce, which would remove much union hostility, would be to allow employers to pay trainees the "rate for the job".

Many training agents believe that JTS could not only be saved but could become the most valuable weapon against long-term unemployment.

£6m centre to lead way in research for industry

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A centre for exploitation of science and technology, costing more than £6 million and paid for mainly by industry, is to be established on the science park attached to Manchester University. Its aim will be to identify for universities and industry areas of research most likely to lead to "commercial winners".

Eighteen companies are subscribing £250,000 each to the centre. The Government is giving £1 million.

Sir Robin Nicholson, a former chief scientific adviser to the Government, and director of research for Pilkington, said that although the founder members were large companies, the centre would be sensitive to the vital role smaller businesses played in exploiting scientific advances.

He hopes the centre will be in operation before the end of the year, when a chief executive will be appointed. Eventually it will have 12 staff.

The science park proposal was outlined in a bid for the centre by Manchester University, which led a consortium including the universities of Salford, Liverpool, Lancaster and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, and the polytechnics of Manchester, Liverpool and Lancashire.

The consortium assembled its proposals with the help of several companies in the North-west, which has a high level of research and development in electronics, aerospace, information technology and chemicals.

The creation of such a centre was recommended two years ago by the Government's Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development.

At the launch of the centre yesterday, Sir Robin said the object was to promote an awareness of advances in science and technology worldwide; to identify advances likely to lead to new industrial and commercial opportunities; to provide research scientists and engineers with an awareness of the opportunities and to encourage basic research.

He said that a country the size of Britain could not conduct research and development in every area of science and technology. It was essential to be more selective.

The new organization will create links throughout the academic and industrial groups involved in science and engineering. The aim is to foster and promote new and promising aspects of science and technology for exploitation.

Sir Robin said that British industry should emerge from the process with a future that was stronger in science and technology-led change.

● Volunteers are being sought to help researchers find ways of preventing or treating the common cold.

The Medical Research Council is offering £1.75 a day pocket-money plus travelling expenses to healthy adults who will spend 10 days at its Common Cold Unit in Salisbury, Wiltshire.

The volunteers stand a one in three chance of developing a cold. They will be accommodated free of charge in centrally-heated flats.

"Students find the conditions suitable for studying", Dr Ian Barrow, director of the unit, said yesterday.

University research, page 7



Supporters of Mahraz Darshan Das (right, with the Prince of Wales last month), at Southall police station yesterday.

Police view Sikh death as sectarian

By Robin Young

Police are satisfied that the Sikh religious leader killed in Southall, west London, on Wednesday night, was the victim of a sectarian conflict. The incident room set up to deal with the inquiry has been closed.

Mahraz Darshan Das was shot dead as he addressed a religious meeting at a school in Southall. Three of Mr Das's followers were seriously injured. Two men who were arrested after the shooting were still in hospital last night after being set upon by the crowd.

One of the injured sect followers, Mr Satwant Singh Panesar, of Heston, west London, had tried to shield Mr Das from gunfire, his wife, Kawai Jit, said yesterday.

"He stood up to protect the people when the gunmen came in. He was the only one to do anything and I feel very proud of him", she said.

Mr Panesar is in a serious condition at Ealing Hospital.

Mr Das, who came from Handsworth, Birmingham, was the charismatic founder and leader of an evangelical mission, Sachkhand Nanak Dham International. He held regular religious meetings at the school where he was killed.

His group was apolitical and

had refused to take any interest in the campaign for a separate Sikh state of Khalistan. That, and Mr Das's evangelical style of preaching and faith healing, brought the group into conflict with other Sikhs.

Last month, Mr Das met, and was photographed with, the Prince of Wales at the opening of a home for the elderly in Camberwell, south London.

Mr Piara Khabra, president of the secular Indian Workers' Association, said yesterday that supporters of the separatist campaign for Khalistan were known to have been behind several attacks in Britain against Sikhs who supported the Indian government of Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

"Das's followers were spiritually opposed to the separatists, so they may have become a target", he said.

In Birmingham, Mr Britam Singh Kalsi, secretary of the Birmingham Sikh Council, said that Mr Das's sect was regarded as being outside the true faith of Sikhism. "He called himself a living guru, but in true Sikhism there is no such thing," he said.

"There has been a lot of ill-feeling towards him and his death comes as no surprise."



Karpov accepts offer of draw after 21 moves

From Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent, Seville

The twelfth game of the World Chess Championship ended in a listless draw yesterday after a mere 21 moves.

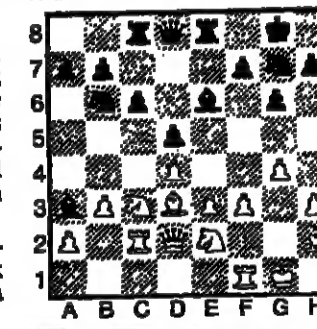
The board was crowded with pieces and an interesting middle game appeared in prospect when Kasparov, the defending champion, playing white, offered a draw. Karpov, the challenger, accepted.

Kasparov appeared to begin with a clear advantage, putting pressure on both sides of the board. However, from moves 15 to 20 he retreated well-placed pieces and inflicted weaknesses on his pawn structure.

Game 13 is set for tomorrow. Kasparov leads by six and a half points to five and a half.

White	Black	12 Qc2	Nd7
1 c4	d5	13 Q-0	g5
2 Nc3	d5	14 h3	f6
3 d4	d5	15 Ng2	Rac8
4 e4	d5	16 Qd2	Nb5
5 Bf4	Nb5	17 Bh2	Ng7
6 a3	Bf5	18 g4	Qd8
7 Ng2	O-O	19 f3	Nb6
8 Rf1	Qd5	20 h3	Bc3
9 Ng3	Bb6	21 Rc2	draw
10 Bg2	Rc8		
11 Qb2	Qb6		

Final position



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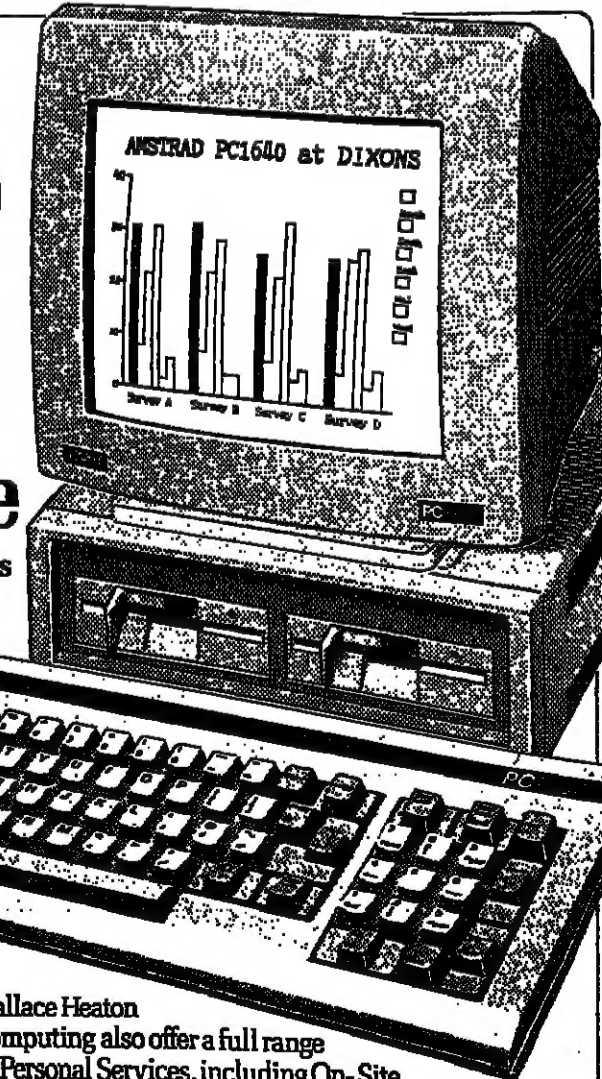
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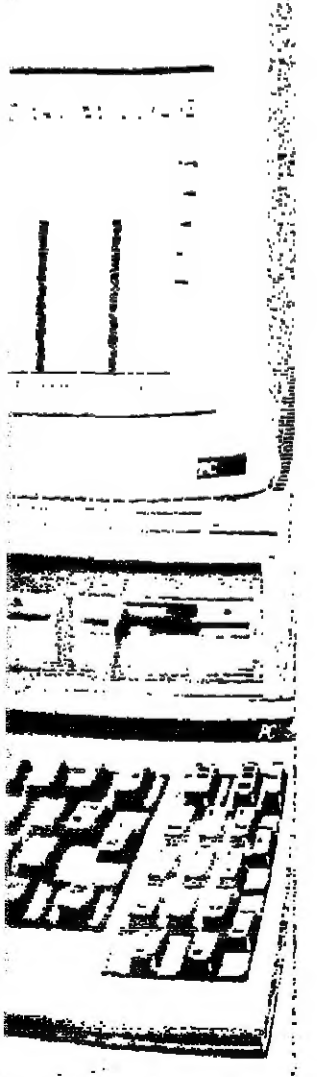


Southall police station yesterday

accepts offer
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Poll shows British teenagers want cash more than love

By Andrew Morgan

The spirit of Thatcherism has taken root in British teenagers, whose values are now oriented towards personal success through hard work and money, a survey shows.

Young Britons place greater value on money than either love or friendship, said Mrs Christine Bestell, a director of McCann Erickson, the advertising agency responsible for the survey.

A third of those questioned wanted jobs in the City, adding to the renaissance of the Puritan work ethic.

"They have short-term goals and many are practical and materialistic," she said. "The overriding discovery was the feeling that money was the doorway to modern life, and that to consume is to have worth."

"Economic security will be necessary to satisfy the consumer hopes of the young, and they will carry that as emotional baggage for the rest of their lives."

Similar surveys conducted by McCann Erickson in Europe found that teenagers elsewhere valued friendship and love above money. They also placed greater value on the welfare state than did young Britons, who see wealth as the route to happiness, sophistication and individuality.

The British survey, intended to sharpen the focus on young attitudes, was based on a sample of 985 young people from 53 sampling points, divided into two broad categories: the "New Wave" (those aged between 15 to 19), and the "Baby Boomers" (20-25).

Baby Boomers, who were teenagers in the years of the last Labour government, were found to be more liberal, interested in closer relationships with others and sought more fulfilment through happiness than those in the younger category.

Fewer New Wave teenagers than Baby Boomers wanted

aid to the Third World cut and immigration restricted. Fewer showed concern about the environment.

The Baby Boomers were found to be keen on the three Hs - healthiness, hedonism and humanity - while the New Wave, already adult in many ways, were cynical and group-orientated.

Forty-three per cent of teenagers had a bank account (with a virtual 50-50 split between males and females), and 28 per cent had a building society account. Eight per cent even used a credit card.

The survey also compared results with findings 10 years ago. It found that young people as a whole are more opposed to divorce and homosexuality today, but less concerned about becoming drunk at a party.

The comparison found little change in overall morality, with more young people disapproving of taking soft drugs than 10 years ago. However, there was a marked increase in the number of teenagers who would consider petty shoplifting.

● The average family in Britain owes £4,500, excluding mortgages, a survey by Familybase, a church charity organization, shows.

The survey also disclosed that more than half a million debt cases reached the courts last year; almost 5 per cent of all personal lending is in arrears, two million people are behind with their fuel bills, and 300,000 home owners are three months or more in arrears with their mortgages.

Familybase says credit card companies should donate some of their profits to funding debt advice centres.

Baby operation postponed five times



By Craig Seton

Heart surgery on a baby only 33 days old was postponed for the fifth time yesterday because of a shortage of nurses at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

David Barber, from Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, needs the operation to correct a hole in his heart and a missing valve. His condition is stable.

Surgeons at the hospital did carry out a heart by-pass operation yesterday on William Pound, who is six days old, from Rugby Warwickshire, after a magistrate threatened to take legal action if it was postponed. Last week, another baby was transferred to Nottingham because he could not be operated on in Birmingham.

Mrs Jean Rigby, the hospital administrator, said: "This is not a financial problem. It is a shortage of registered sick children's nurses with intensive therapy training."

No inquest on three deaths, parents say

Legal fund launched for unborn baby

By Peter Davenport

A fighting fund has been launched to pay the legal costs of Mr Phillip Rayner and his wife, Lily, in their attempt to defeat moves by social workers to make their unborn child a ward of court.

Mr Peter Clatworthy, joint managing director of a London computer company, talked to the couple after seeing a television interview in which they described their plight.

He put them in touch with Kingsley, Napley, the law firm of Sir David Napley, and contributed £3,000 to start a fund.

Mr Clatworthy said yesterday his company had agreed to underwrite the legal expenses, although he expected many people to make contributions to the fund.

The Rayners are now being represented by Mr Paul Terzoon, a senior partner with the law firm.

Last night a spokesman for Tameside social services department said that their solicitors had been in contact with legal representatives of the family.

The department insists that the course of action it proposes is the correct one in the interests of the unborn child, and that it was agreed by experts involved in a case conference.

Social workers have decided to take the baby into care after the unexplained deaths of three of the couple's babies, all within a few weeks of their birth.

Yesterday Mr Rayner, who said that there had been no

inquest or police investigation into any of the deaths, was adamant that neither he or his wife had done anything which could have contributed to the fatalities.

Few marriages have endured as much tragedy as the Rayners: besides the deaths of the three babies, another child was stillborn, and Mrs Rayner has had four miscarriages.

Mrs Rayner, aged 34, and only a month away from the birth of her latest child, was staying with friends and resting while her husband waited at their council home in Greenwood Avenue, Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, to hear the latest developments.

Mr Rayner, aged 32, is an unemployed fitter who has been out of work for seven

Portfolio Gold

Widow of 82 wins jackpot

A widow aged 82 is the sole winner of today's jackpot £8,000 Portfolio Gold prize.

Mrs Audrey Smith, of Springfield Terrace, South Brent, South Devon, a retired secretary, plans to share her bonus win with her three children.

However she is not certain what she will do with her own share. "I shall enjoy just having it and spending it," she said.

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WHAT MAKES HAPPINESS*

	Males	Females	15-19	20-25
Good health	56%	58%	53%	60%
Happy family life	33%	48%	36%	44%
Money	34%	23%	27%	31%
Friends	24%	20%	33%	20%
Success	24%	20%	28%	17%
Fun	20%	14%	21%	15%
Love	10%	19%	12%	17%
Job security	18%	11%	14%	16%
Peace of mind	10%	11%	7%	13%
A nice home	6%	10%	5%	11%

*Each sample selected three constituents from a total of 23.

FINANCIAL EXPERIENCE

	Males	Females	15-19	20-25
Bank A/c	58%	54%	43%	66%
Building Soc A/c	31%	33%	28%	36%
Credit card	20%	19%	8%	25%
Stocks/shares	8%	3%	3%	8%

Birmingham bombings appeal

Scientist denies wrong test

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A Home Office forensic scientist denied yesterday that he had admitted using the wrong test for nitro-glycerine on the men convicted of the Birmingham bombings.

Dr Frank Skuse, who is now retired, carried out the test, known as the Griess test, in November 1974 on five of the men and linked two to explosives. The Court of Appeal has been told.

The six men who are appealing against conviction claim that Dr Skuse used the test with a 1 per cent caustic soda solution, which shows up nitro-cellulose as well as nitro-glycerine. The court has been told that to provide a positive result for nitro-glycerine alone the caustic soda solution should be 0.1 per cent.

It has also been told that nitro-cellulose can be found on items such as playing cards

or cigarette wrappers, which some of the appellants claim they came into contact with before their arrest.

The court was told yesterday of a letter written by Dr Hugh Black, a former Home Office chief inspector of constabulary, reporting a meeting with Dr Skuse. In the letter, dated May 1975, Dr Black, a consultant acting for the defence, said Dr Skuse had used the Griess test with a 1 per cent solution.

Dr Skuse said he had never discussed the materials he had used for the Griess test or their concentration at the meeting. He said he had seen Dr Black in February 1975 about a Manchester bombing case, after which minutes were produced. He agreed that in describing the Griess test he had administered he had said he used a 0.1 per cent solution,

which was the correct amount.

Dr Skuse was asked by Mr Stephen Mitchell, for the Crown, why the Griess test produced a positive result for two suspects which more sensitive equipment in other tests did not later support.

Dr Skuse said the time lag in the tests might have caused deterioration of what had been a tiny amount of material. He said he was satisfied from the test result that nitro-glycerine had been present on the hand of Patrick Hill, one of the appellants.

He was shown a letter from a doctor who operated the test equipment, which was sent to his laboratory after the test. The letter suggested she had a difficult interpretation of the result. But Dr Skuse said he could not remember seeing it. The hearing continues today.

Mystery of £30m Van Gogh buyer

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

A question mark still hangs over the auction of the world's most expensive painting, "Irises", by Van Gogh, which sold for \$53.9 million (£30.2 million) at Sotheby's New York on Wednesday night.

Sotheby's New York expert, David Nash, could reveal little about the new owner's identity yesterday, although he said: "There was no Japanese bidding, certainly not for the last half. This surprised me enormously. I do know who was bidding, but I don't know on whose behalf."

Unless this means a decoy was bidding on behalf of a Japanese client, we can rule the Japanese out. That leaves the art market turning its curious gaze upon Australia and those two antipodean millionaires, Alan Bond (thought to have been the underbidder for Van Gogh's "Sunflowers", sold in March) and Kerry Packer.

"There will be an announcement in due course," said Mr Nash, who was still reeling yesterday from the success of the sale.

He said it was impossible to generalize about the countries which bought the most.

"The person who bought the

SALEROOM

second highest lot ("Le Jardin Fleuri" by Claude Monet at \$5.8 million, and also a record) has homes in London, Los Angeles and Paris". He said that only 18 lots (13 per cent of the proceeds) were bought by Japanese buyers, who, due to the strength of the yen, had been expected in force.

The sale raised a total of \$110.2 million, with 87 per cent sold, and included two further world records.

One was for the German painter Max Beckmann - a portrait called Selbstbildnis mit Weisses Mäntel - which sold for \$1.5 million. The other was for Salvador Dali's "The Battle of Tetuan", which fetched \$2.4 million (estimate up to \$3 million).

In Munich, where Sotheby's tested the water with their first sale in Germany yesterday, the news was not so joyful, with 41 per cent unsold.

In London, Christie's raised \$641,938 for their continental furniture, with 87 per cent sold. The story was somewhat different in the first part of their British and Irish paintings sale, where \$608,000 was raised, but 31 per cent failed to sell.

Heathrow rail link planned

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

A £160 million high-speed rail link from Paddington station, west London, to Heathrow Airport is being planned by British Rail and the British Airports Authority.

The project would make use of the existing main western line for about 12 miles from Paddington to near Hayes, west London. From there a two-mile spur would run south to Heathrow.

Special 100mph rolling stock would be built with extra capacity for luggage. Trains would leave every 15 minutes for the 16-minute journey.

The project is one of about 40 schemes which have been submitted to the Department of Transport after publication of a report by consultants in the summer, which examined a number of ways to improve links between central London and Heathrow. It is the one most likely to be adopted.

Within the next few weeks London Regional Transport is to propose an express Underground link with Heathrow.

● The Tyneside Metro launched a crime prevention scheme yesterday after figures were released showing that vandalism and fare-dodging were costing £1.75 million.

Jail for man who shot thief

A builder who shot an intruder after numerous raids on his country cottage was yesterday jailed for two and half years.

James Iddenden, aged 37, was found guilty of unlawful wounding in spite of claims that he acted because police failed to do anything to help him. He was found not guilty of wounding with intent.

Portsmouth Crown Court was told that Iddenden, armed with a shotgun, lay in wait at the cottage he was renovating

in Steep March, near Petersfield, Hampshire. After a few hours he heard noises on his roof and shot Terence Moore, a soldier, twice in the leg.

Mr Edward Cross, for the defence, said the behaviour of the police was "lamentable". He said Iddenden reported cases of theft or damage on 10 occasions but not once did they take any action.

He said Iddenden had lost more than £20,000 worth of property and acted within his

rights to guard his property.

Iddenden said he acted in self-defence and fired the gun accidentally and in panic.

Moore, aged 21, who was later convicted of stealing tiles from the premises the night before, was off work for three months and still has 40 shotgun pellets embedded in his leg.

The judge ordered the confiscation of Iddenden's two shotguns and cancellation of his shotgun certificate.

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PARLIAMENT

European space projects 'are far too costly'

Participation in the European Space Agency's projects would cost Britain the equivalent of more than a dozen new hospitals every year, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Trade and Industry, told MPs.

In a statement on the meeting this week in The Hague, in which Britain stood alone against the proposals against the other 12 ESA member states, he said that since the last meeting in Rome in 1985, Britain had underlined its commitment to ESA by the significant increased funding that it had provided.

That was no less than £85 million this year alone.

Since the Rome meeting, Britain's commitment to European co-operation in space had not changed. But what had changed was the scale of ESA's aspirations.

Overall, the total cost of the proposals put at The Hague would increase spending on space by more than two-and-a-half times over the next five years.

For the UK, agreement to these programmes would have meant an increase to more than £200 million, the equivalent of more than a dozen new NHS hospitals every year from now on.

But Britain's objection was not solely that the bill was so huge. It could not see sufficient scientific, industrial or commercial benefits to justify such a

RESEARCH

huge increase. He had pressed for a reassessment of priorities to develop a strategy designed to achieve worthwhile aims which would yield solid and worthwhile returns.

Three major new optional programmes had been presented: Ariane 5, a new heavy-lift launcher capable of putting three satellites into orbit; Columbus, the European involvement in the international space station project; and the Hermes manned spaceplane.

He had made clear that he could not endorse the grandiose ambitions of the Hermes programme to put man in space by the year 2000. At enormous expense, that would only achieve capabilities which the United States would have achieved 20 years previously.

There had been no satisfactory conclusion yet to negotiations with the Americans about European participation on the Columbus programme. He had declined to agree to proposals that Europe should in any event go ahead with a separate and autonomous version of Columbus if agreement with the United States could not be reached.

He had said that Britain would consider further the proposals for a polar platform associated with Columbus. This would be an unmanned space vehicle, primarily for Earth observation, that would be complementary to a similar US platform.

Britain's final position on this would depend on further discussions that he would be

holding with UK companies, including the financial contribution they would be prepared to make to ensure their participation in contracts to which they attached significance or as users of the platform.

It was important to give European industry ready access to a launcher for telecommunications and other satellites, but he had to question the increase some wanted to see solely in order for Ariane 5 to be manufactured and to enable it to launch spaceships as well as satellites.

There had also been proposals for increases in the mandatory science and general budgets. These had already had major increases since the Rome meeting. The science budget would have increased by 27 per cent in real terms between 1985 and 1989. ESA proposed a further increase of 5 per cent per annum in real terms until 1992.

There could be no justification for such a proposal, ESA could and should achieve the agreed scientific objectives within the currently agreed funding level. He could not, therefore, endorse the increase.

He had emphasized the need to take a fresh look at some of the new and hugely expensive ESA proposals which largely derived from a desire to follow the Americans into manned spacecraft.

He had confirmed Britain's substantial support for those parts of the established programme which gave due weight to industrial, economic, commercial and scientific considerations. He had also argued for greater involvement of industry and users in the planning and financing of programmes.



Five-day Commons ban for Dalyell

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) (above) was "named" by the Speaker after refusing to withdraw an allegation that the Prime Minister had told a "necessary and indispensable lie".

The vote on the naming, which means that he will be suspended from the House for five days, was agreed by 220 votes to 102.

The incident happened during questions about the business of the Commons. The Speaker had appealed for good behaviour and had asked MPs to give a lead to the nation on good standards.

Mr Dalyell said that standards started at the top and asked for the Prime Minister to

explain to the House why she had said on January 27, 1986, that she had not known about the role of her then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Leon Brittan) until the inquiry into the Westland affair had reported.

She should confirm that she was daily kept in touch and that for the protection of her position and in order to remain in Downing Street, she had told a necessary and indispensable lie (protests).

After asking him to withdraw three times and after Mr Dalyell had refused to do so, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) "named" him.

After the result of the division was announced and the Speaker had asked Mr Dalyell to leave, he did so to loud applause from Labour back benches.

Earlier, Mr Bill Walker (Tayside North, C) had clashed with the Speaker over comments about four MPs who, Mr Walker said, were referred to on a Scottish television programme. After arguing with the Speaker, he withdrew his remarks.

He said that the programme related to the affairs of Dundee District Council. The allegations were that large sums of money had disappeared and that there had been acts of homosexuality.

Clarke has come back from The Hague meeting with his tail between his legs, says Gould

Mr Kenneth Clarke had come back from The Hague with his tail between his legs and a flea in his ear, Mr Bryan Gould said in commenting on the minister's statement on the European Space Agency (ESA) meeting.

Mr Gould, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that what Mr Clarke had said was not so much a statement but more an admission of failure.

Even in terms of his own objectives, Mr Clarke had failed to bring about any reassessment of priorities within the ESA programme.

While the Government might be correct in describing some of the programme as over-ambitious, it had no alternative future programme to suggest for the ESA. "However modest and sensible the ESA expansion, the Government would have opposed it in principle."

Could Mr Clarke assure MPs

that Britain would at least take part in the Columbus programme and try to secure the lead role in the polar platform satellite project?

"Is not this decision the worst possible news for the 300 UK firms involved in space? They will fail to win new contracts and face a new brain drain of top scientists to Europe. What chance can we have of retaining these scientists and programmes when all the worthwhile and advanced work is being done elsewhere?"

On Hotel, how did Mr Clarke expect the private sector to make up the gap in space spending?

The failure to back a British contribution to the ESA was symptomatic of a wider failure to back science in this country.

"Mr Clarke's attitude at The Hague was a prime example of Thatcherism in action, characterized by short-term consid-

erations and anti-investment, anti-science, uniting everyone else against him in opposition to his position."

Mr Clarke replied that he did not accept Mr Gould's analysis of the meeting. It was fashionable to speak of failures and successes, of bloody noses, but the fact was that the meeting at The Hague had been extremely friendly and that he was on friendly terms with his colleagues, Dr Heinz Riesenhuber, of Germany, and M Alain Madelin, of France. He agreed with them on politics and on European co-operation.

They had been discussing optional programmes to add to mandatory programmes. They had exercised their option to decline to join the Hermes project, a new addition since the Rome meeting. There was remarkably little support for the project in British industry.

"What worries me is that it

will distort the balance and perhaps damage telecommunications and Earth observation projects, which are our principal interests. We think they should be at the forefront of the programme. I was putting forward that we should reassess priorities and when Ariane 5 was off on back to assessment of scientific and industrial and objectives."

The Polar platform was an extremely interesting concept and had attractions for British industry. It would fulfil an Earth observation role. Further discussions would be needed with the Americans because of their similar project, and there had also to be discussion with British Aerospace and others interested.

"The decision means that we have not decided to go into huge additional programmes, but does not imply any reductions in our contribution to space or to space agencies."

The Hotel project had not been on the agenda and had scarcely been mentioned. The French saw it as a competitor to their Ariane-Hermes project. What was needed was to work it up to a serious project and to consider what international collaborators were available. Further discussions with British industry, the Government and British Aerospace were also needed.

Sir Geoffrey Pattie (Chertsey and Walton, C), a former minister for information technology, supported realistic space spending, but contended that the United Kingdom had fallen behind in the past few years.

Mr Clarke said that just making comparisons with what other countries spent did not take one very far forward.

It was necessary to ask what those countries were spending their space money on — and for what reason.

Anglo-Irish pact comes under fire

The Anglo-Irish agreement came in for severe criticism from Unionist MPs when it was discussed at question time. One complained that it had brought death and destruction to the province. But Labour's spokesman supported it.

Sir John Bigger-Davison (Epping Forest, C) asked if two years was not enough for ministers to be honest, humble and courageous enough to admit that the agreement had outraged most people in the province and ought now to be reviewed?

How long could the Secretary of State continue to treat Northern Ireland like a colonial condominium when the surest way of safeguarding security was to treat Northern Ireland as truly part of the United Kingdom?

Mr King said that slogans were not the most helpful way forward.

Mr Kenneth Maginnis (Fermanagh and South Tyrone, OUP) said that in his constituency the agreement had not produced the smallest vestige of improvement in security.

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East, DUP) said that the agreement had increased the death toll and done nothing in political and economic terms.

Mr King said that there had to be a willingness to look for constructive solutions.

The Rev William McCrea (Mid Ulster, DUP) None of the 11 people who died in the massacre at Enniskillen wanted to be associated with the Anglo-Irish agreement (protests). I know the people of Northern Ireland have utterly rejected the agreement which has brought nothing but death and destruction to our towns.

Mr King: I do not know of his right to speak for every single individual. What we do know is that all who believe in democracy will stand united against terrorism.

Calls for debate on C of E

A call for a debate on the Church of England was made by Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton North, C) during business questions.

He asked if it was right to sustain a bench of bishops in the House of Lords so long as the Church fudged and fumbled on fundamental biblical and moral issues.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said that the Church of England and the Synod was an important element in the setting of moral standards in society.

He was sure that they took this into account in making decisions.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Littleborough and Saddleworth, C) supported the call for a debate.

This should be done so that MPs might call on the Church to purge its pulpits of homosexual vicars, many of whom had proved to be a danger to children.

Mr Wakeham replied that he recognized the strong feelings of a number of MPs on this.

However, he was not able to offer him a debate in Government time in the near future.

King pleads with N Ireland political leaders for peace

ULSTER

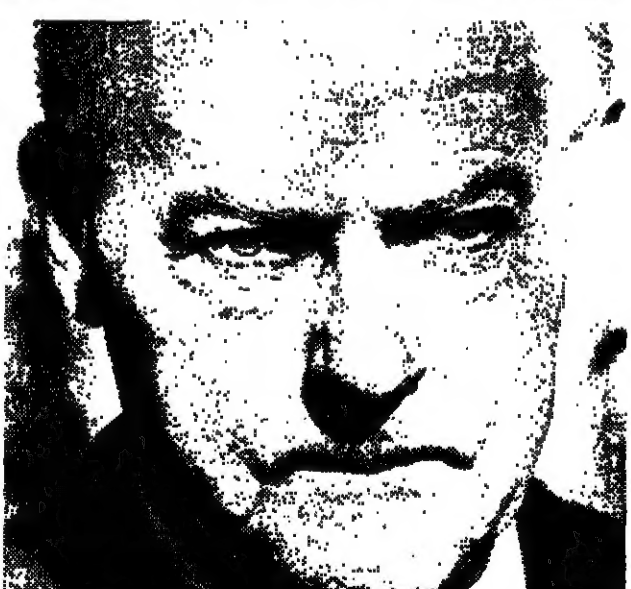
Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, made a plea to the political leaders of the province not to stir old wounds but to build on the new spirit that existed after the Enniskillen bombing.

During questions, Mr King said that it was vital that the universal condemnation of the outrage at Enniskillen be backed by the fullest help and support from all sides of the community for the RUC and the security forces in their fight against terrorism.

Mr Henry Bellingham (Norfolk North West, C) said that, after the recent ghastly events, there could be no doubt that terrorists were the sworn enemies of the people of Ireland, both North and South.

He hoped that there would be a renewed determination by the southern Irish Government to combat terrorism and impede it at every possible turn. It was now more important than ever for the two Irish governments to work together.

Mr King agreed that recent events had made a profound impression on both sides of the border. He welcomed a report that a new security committee,



Mr James Molyneux, MP, taking part in a London protest march yesterday against the Anglo-Irish agreement.

headed by the Taoiseach, was being set up.

Mr William Ross (London, Epping Forest, OUP) said that if Mr King was satisfied with progress in the fight against terrorism, his must be a lone voice. If he was not satisfied, when did he expect his own level of competence to

match the gravity of the situation?

Mr Ross said that he was not, of course, satisfied with progress in the fight against terrorism, "but we are fighting hard".

Mr Ross should not pretend that it lay in the hands of himself (Mr King) or the

Government to wave a wand. There was a role for the security forces and there was also a role for the leaders of all the communities in Northern Ireland. They should recognize that they owed it to the people who had died in the tragedy of Northern Ireland not to seek to stir old wounds.

He believed that there was a new spirit after Enniskillen. People wanted to build new bridges.

Mr James Kilfedder (Down North, DUP) wondered whether all the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland now fully and unequivocally supported the security forces. There was a need for the minority community to take a greater part in the fight against terrorism with the security forces.

Mr King said that he looked to all the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland to support the security forces. He would deeply wish to see enhanced recruitment among the minority community.

Mr David Alton, Liberal spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that the co-operation of the Roman Catholic community was important, but so was the co-operation of Dublin. Could Mr King repeat his concern about the extradition agreement being enacted on December 1?

Why had the Prime Minister ruled out before the discussions with the Irish Government that there would be no joint security commission?

Mr King said that he had made no secret of his concern about the extradition treaty.

Strong as the arguments were before recent events — and some might say they were overwhelming — there was now no question about the need for the closest co-operation and activity between both governments in the fight against terrorism. "There is now such an identity of interest, manifest to everyone in Ireland, that it becomes a compelling priority."

Mr King later referred to a second bomb that had been placed at a Remembrance Day parade, in Tullyhormann. He said that the IRA had failed to detonate it. Had it gone off, the casualties would have been civilians, young members of the Boys' Brigade and the Girl's Brigade, their parents and other spectators. The IRA campaign was ruthless and contemptible.

Mr Seamus Mallon (Newry and Armagh, SDLP) said the Enniskillen bomb was aimed at damaging the Anglo-Irish agreement. Those who feared the agreement most were those in the IRA because they feared the

two communities coming together.

Ultimately, the only way in which the IRA and those dedicated to violence would be defeated was by the efforts of everyone in the island of Ireland and by the two governments acting together.

Mr King agreed. "It would be difficult to conceive of an attack or an outrage more villainously designed to stir up sectarian hatred than the way that particular outrage was conceived — the location of the bomb and its target."

The IRA was determined to smash any attempts at closer co-operation between the British and Irish governments. "If we are to defeat the evil of terrorism, that co-operation is vital."

Mr Timothy Yee (South Suffolk, C) asked if Mr King agreed that the only positive response to the Enniskillen bomb was to reaffirm the determination to make a success of the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Mr King said that co-operation had to be the right way forward. It was in the interests of the majority and the minority in Ulster to have a more effective attack on the problems of terrorism and an improvement in security.

Hint of secrets Act change

PRIME MINISTER

The Government is still considering whether to bring forward legislation to change the Official Secrets Act, but it does not seem likely that it will be less restrictive than the present controversial Section 2 of the Act, the Prime Minister said during questions.

She twice reminded the Commons that the attempt to change the Act in 1979 had not met with its favour.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet South, C) had said that he warmly welcomed "yesterday's surprise announcement that the Government intends to reform the Official Secrets Act. May I ask her to clarify whether better replacement legislation is likely to be a measure in the direction of greater liberalization or restriction?"

Mrs Thatcher: The Attorney General said earlier this week that work has been in hand for some time to find an effective, enforceable and reasonable provision to replace Section 2 of the 1911 Act.

If, in the light of that work, we decide to bring forward further proposals for reform, we shall announce them in due course; but we are conscious of the criticisms of the 1979 Bill.

A great deal of work was done on that Bill. Before it was brought forward, the Franks report was produced over the lifetime of the last Labour Government and there was a White Paper. We brought forward proposals in the White Paper which did not find favour with the House.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, asked whether Mrs Thatcher would support a private MP's Bill to repeal Section 2.

Mrs Thatcher did not reply to that, but said that if a new Section 2 were brought forward, it would be less restrictive than the present one for obvious reasons. The one brought forward in 1979 had been less restrictive but had been rejected.

A great deal of work had been done by both sides and they had put forward what had been thought to be a virtually an agreed measure, but it had not turned out to be so.

Committee rejects left MP

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Ken Livingstone has been voted off the executive of a leading Labour pressure group in a move underlining the deep split on the left.

Other figures on the far left, or those who have proposed a rapprochement between the far and left, suffered in a surge organized by a pro-Kinnock faction in the Labour Co-ordinating Committee (LCC).

But the annual co-ordinating committee elections resulted in a personal triumph for Mr Chris Smith, Labour MP for Islington, South and Finsbury. Mr Smith, a front-bench Treasury spokesman, topped the poll at his first attempt.

Mr Livingstone, former leader of the GLC and now MP for Brent East, was the most notable casualty.

But Mr Peter Hain, who has been a leading figure in the committee for several years, and who has always been close to heading the executive ballot, only narrowly survived.

The severe drop in support for him was seen as punishment for his statement, written with several Labour MPs in August, calling for a realignment on the left between the hard and soft groupings, and for his earlier call for a joint left state in the Shadow Cabinet elections.

That upset prominent figures on the soft left and Kinnock supporters who want nothing to do with the hardline left.

Mr Michael Ward, another prominent left winger, was also removed from the executive, which has 20 members.

A pro-Kinnock group within the co-ordinating committee, called the Clause Four group, was claiming credit for the coup.

The results were due to be announced at the committee's annual meeting tomorrow; but they were leaked yesterday.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Immigration Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Debate on Opposition motion on transport.

Wednesday: Debate on development in the EEC.

Thursday: Motion on Housing Benefit (General) Regulations.

Friday: Private member's motion on mining communities.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Criminal Justice Bill, report, first day.

Wednesday: Debate on civil research and development.

Thursday: Criminal Justice Bill, report, second day.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's motion on the Commonwealth and South Africa.

Redundancy terms dispute

Strike halts Labour's HQ

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Labour Party's Walworth Road headquarters was brought to a standstill by striking staff yesterday and faces the prospect of further disruption over the next few weeks.

The stoppage, called by the National Union of Journalists, was over redundancy terms being offered to five journalists on the party newspaper *Labour Weekly* which has just been closed as part of a package of measures to save off financial crisis.

They have been offered £7,500 each on top of their statutory redundancy entitlement, but are demanding partly with members of the management who are being offered up to £14,000.

Far from acceding to their demands, the party managers are taking a firm line and may even withdraw the informal £7,500 offer which is due to be ratified by the national executive's staff negotiating committee on Monday.

Were that to happen, party sources expect the NUJ members, who staged a 12-hour strike last Tuesday before yesterday's 24-hour stoppage, to man further picket lines outside Walworth Road which the other staff unions would be bound to respect.

In addition, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union are threatening a 24-hour stoppage next Thursday in protest at the threat of

compulsory redundancies as the party seeks to cut about 40 posts.

Yesterday's strike was ordered by the national NUJ after the Walworth Road chapel voted by six to five on Wednesday to support demands for equal redundancy payments.

Among those who voted against was Mr Peter Mandelson, Director of Communications, who was also obliged to strike yesterday.

Mr Ken Hyder, the NUJ negotiator and one of the five affected journalists, said: "We have maintained a picket and nobody has crossed the line. The headquarters is closed down and at a standstill. The other staff unions are co-operating."

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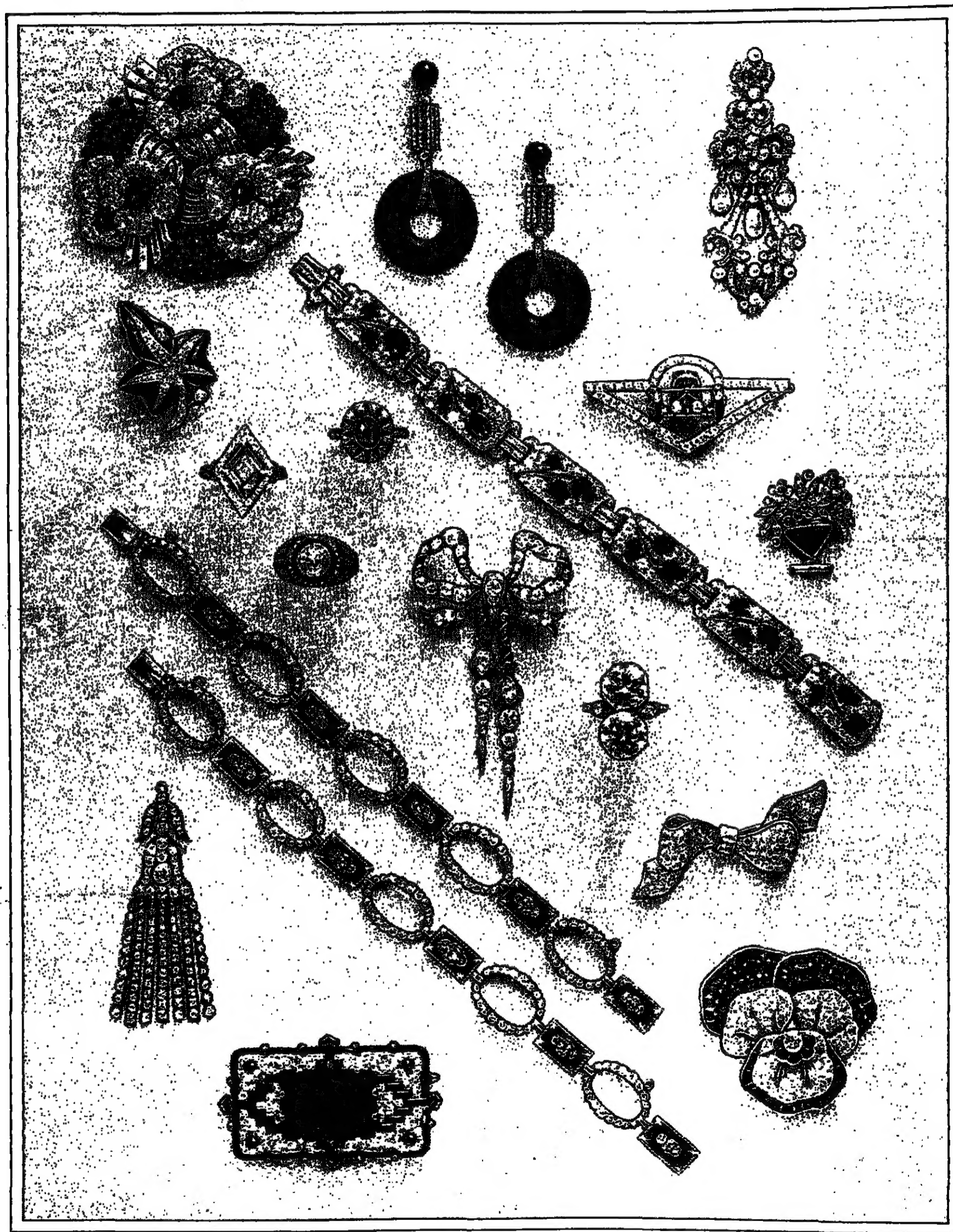
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Athenaeum

Research in universities 'approaching crisis point'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The university and polytechnic research system is near breaking point, Professor Bill Mitchell, chairman of the Science Engineering Research Council, said yesterday.

He estimated that £20 million was needed to prevent further erosion of the 40 per cent of research in universities that was classified as basic science.

Professor Mitchell rejected the plan for reorganization of research in universities and polytechnics which has been proposed to the Department of Education and Science. This would cut the proportion of basic or curiosity-led research from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

Professor Mitchell said the type of research that had no predictable application for the creation of wealth laid the foundations of science technology.

The research council allocates about £120 million each year for basic science. That provides research grants to more than 4,000 young scientists in the country's 45 universities and 60 polytechnics.

It also includes an annual subscription of £45 million for British scientists at the forefront of high energy physics to use the powerful "atom

Festivals 'multiply arts aid tenfold'

By Lynda Murdin, Arts Correspondent

Arts festivals throughout Britain this year multiplied tenfold money received from public arts funding, according to figures published yesterday.

The British Arts Festivals Association, encompassing annual events as diverse as Edinburgh, Chichester, City of London and Aldeburgh, reported that every £1 given by arts bodies was on average quadrupled by business sponsorship and increased six times by box office sales.

Mr John Manduell, the chairman, told Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, that the results from 13 festivals gave "the most positive response yet" to his announcement last week of a £5 million incentive fund next year, with a 17 per cent increase over three years in the whole arts budget.

Mr Manduell said that preliminary figures suggested more than 10,000 people visited a particular town because a festival was there.

Mr Luce told the Arts Council last night he had been encouraged by the positive reaction to his announcement of increased funding. The council will receive 15.6 per cent more over the next three years, from £138.4 million to £160 million in 1990/91.

Star-spangled night for charity



Soprano Ann Mackay (left) and percussionist Evelyn Glennie, who is deaf, two of the stars of next Monday's Royal Gala concert at the Royal Festival Hall, London, in aid of the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. Princess Michael of Kent will be among the guests, John Williams among the guest artists (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Computer map units for RAF Harriers

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The next generation of RAF Harrier aircraft will be equipped with a computerized airborne map system, enabling the pilot to look ahead hundreds of miles at the touch of a button.

The revolutionary system, developed by GEC Avionics, will put the RAF in the forefront of technology. More than 100 of the digital colour map units are expected to be ordered for the improved version of the RAF's Harrier GR5 and it is hoped that the US Navy and Air Force will also order the British equipment.

The new generation of GR5, which may be designated the GR7, is not expected to come into service until the 1990s.

Mr Jack Stone, marketing executive of GEC Avionics' guidance systems division, said yesterday that the new equipment was a "terrific scoop with enormous export potential".

The present map display units in Harriers and other RAF aircraft are based on old technology.

GEC Avionics has been awarded a £7 million development and production contract by the Ministry of Defence. The first digital map system is expected to be delivered in about two years.

Enforced energy savings opposed

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Householders may have to provide information on their home's energy efficiency if a draft directive by the European Commission is enacted.

The directive will be given initial consideration by the Council of Energy Ministers meeting today, and the European Parliament has sent the draft to its environment committee for consideration.

While the Government, through the Department of Energy, is trying to increase energy efficiency, the department is known to be against the proposal.

It takes the view that legislation forcing people to take action on energy efficiency is heavy handed, and the more positive way is to point out the savings that can be made and to encourage homeowners to carry them out voluntarily.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Energy, is attending today's meeting and will oppose any move to get the scheme on to the statute book.

Brewery brings back a prehistoric flavour

A real ale recipe said to be 4,000 years old has been used by Scottish brewers and distillers William Grant to produce a potent new drink.

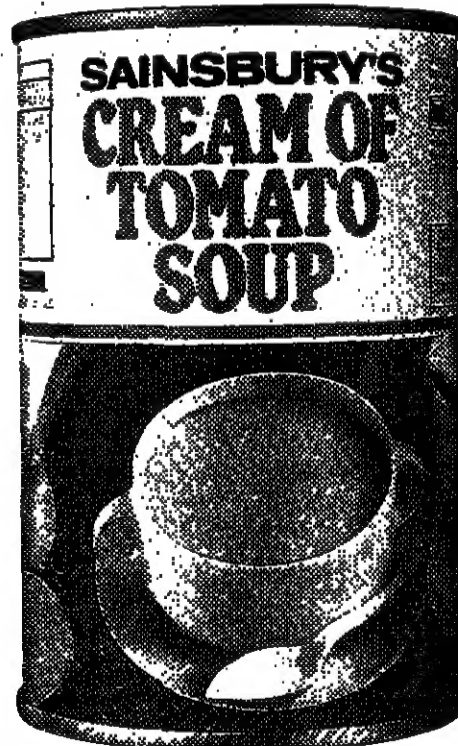
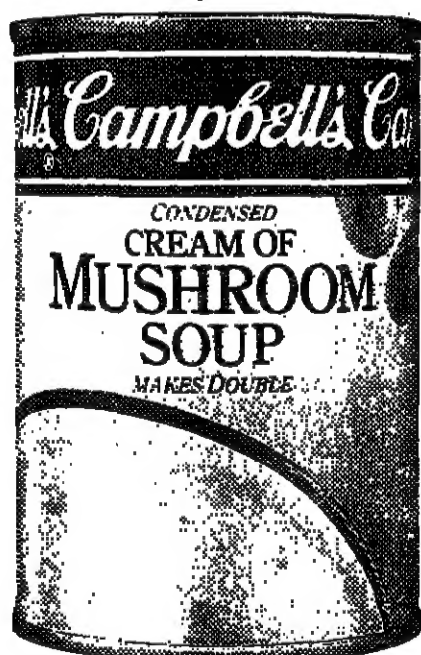
Researchers believe that Stone Age man consumed the brew. His descendants, however, will have to wait a little longer before they may have the chance to sample it.

The company, best known for its Glenfiddich malt whisky, is hoping for a favourable response from the brewing industry before deciding whether to produce it in commercial quantities.

The recipe for the drink was rediscovered in 1985 after archaeologists digging on the Hebridean island of Rhum, Scotland's oldest inhabited

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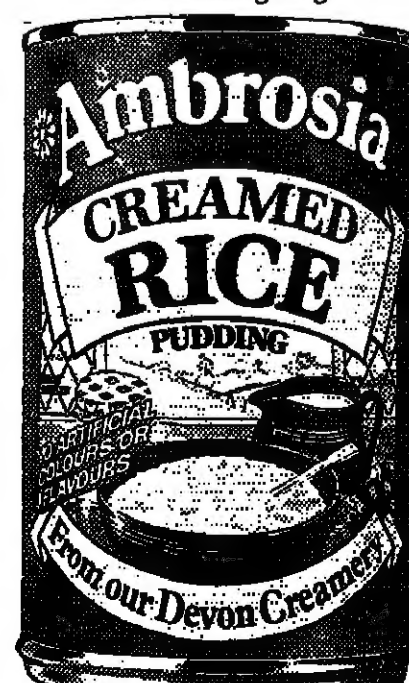
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£1.55 Bovril 250g



35p Ambrosia Creamed Rice Pudding 439g



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Inner city addicts switching from heroin to cocaine

By David Sapsted

Fears that cocaine, the "champagne drug", may be about to take a grip among young addicts in inner cities were voiced by law enforcement chiefs and medical experts yesterday in the wake of the record £51 million seizure at Southampton.

There are a number of reasons for the belief that a shift from heroin, traditionally the biggest drug menace, to cocaine may be under way. The price of the drug has almost halved in the past two years; South American drug barons are apparently targeting Europe for a sales drive; and Customs are

accepting that, despite detection successes, there is an increasing flow of the drug into Britain.

Det Chief Supt David Stockley, in charge of the Home Office's National Drugs Intelligence Unit, said: "We appear to be following the same trend as in the United States, where the heroin situation also reached a plateau and the misuse of cocaine has assumed what has been described as epidemic proportions."

Distribution of the drug coming in from South America, primarily from Colombia and often shipped to the

Continent and re-routed to Britain, is restricted principally to London, but counselling services throughout the country fear that the spread of cocaine is inevitable, with prices already down to £60-£80 a gramme.

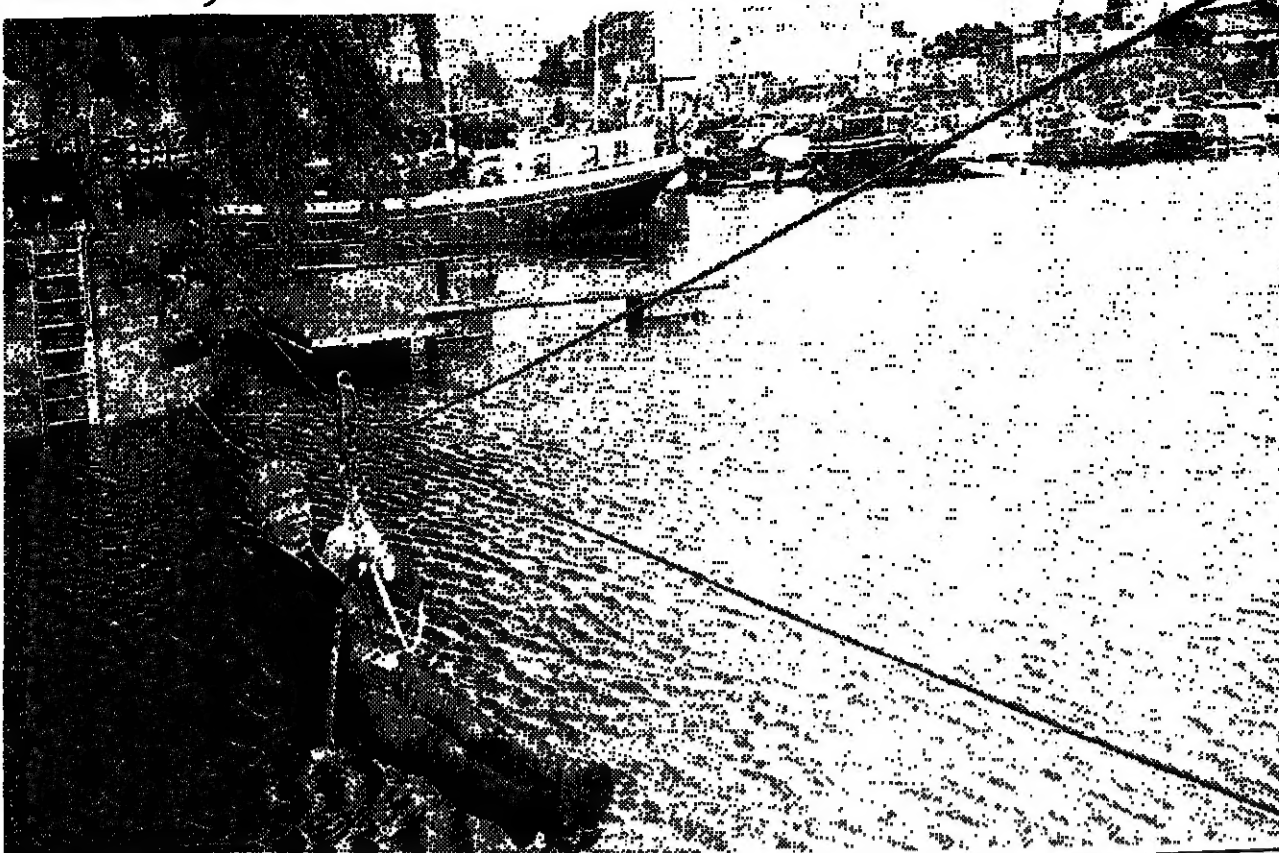
In parts of south London, cocaine is already classified as a street drug with children as young as 14 using it.

Two years ago, a warning of the likelihood of widespread cocaine abuse spreading to Britain was given in a report by the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs after its visit to the US.

Seizures of cocaine by Customs, often co-operating with foreign law-enforcement agencies, have increased 10 fold since 1980. In the first nine months of this year, heroin seizures declined by more than a third on last year. This year's haul, including this week's record, amount to more than 400kg, with a street value in excess of £100 million.

Mr Richard Lawrence, chief of Customs' investigation division, said: "Our seizure figures have gone through the roof but there is still too much coming in. I expect the market availability to increase."

£200,000 scheme swings into action



Mr David Trippier, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, launching a £200,000 Outward Bound scheme for inner city youths in inimitable style — winched across St Katharine's Dock in London by two former Outward Bound participants. Under the scheme, 360 youths will be sponsored by the Government to undergo leadership training courses.

(Photograph: Deniz McNeelance.)

Woman of 84 on murder charge

The oldest person to appear at the Central Criminal Court on a murder charge slept through most of the proceedings yesterday.

Doris Henley, aged 84, was arrested in January accused of kicking to death her sister Florence, aged 91, with whom she had lived for 50 years in Hebdon Road, Tooting, south London.

Miss Henley dozed through most of the 45-minute hearing as she sat beside the dock in a wheelchair. She had been sedated because of the stress.

The murder charge was not put, but a jury decided she was unfit to plead after hearing that she was suffering from dementia.

Dr John Colgan, of Springfield Hospital, Tooting, said:

"I am sure she has no idea of what is going on around her."

Mr Justice McNeill directed that she be returned to Springfield Hospital until a suitable place in a special nursing home is found for her by the Home Secretary.

The prosecution would have alleged that Miss Henley had become irritated by the deafness of her sister

Showcase project to rebuild Teesside

An £80 million project was unveiled yesterday to convert a derelict racecourse in Cleveland into a retail and leisure centre creating 2,000 jobs.

The development of Stockton racecourse, which closed six years ago, will include an exhibition and conference centre, a 120-bed hotel, retail warehouses and many sporting facilities — but not horse racing.

It will be built by Brookmount PLC. Mr Brian Craig, chief executive, said in Middlesbrough: "I think I know a winner when I see one. We hope to be off and running in about two years."

The project is the first for the newly-formed Teesside Development Corporation, a government agency.

Mr Ron Norman, the corporation chairman, welcomed the scheme on the 185-acre site and said: "The redevelopment of Teesside means big, bold and exciting proposals like this and I hope it is the forerunner of many more." He denied it would harm town centre retailers in Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool.

The project is dependent upon public money being spent on a major road link to the A66 and a new railway station to attract the three million people within a 50-mile radius.

280 jail escapes in turbulent year

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Nearly 280 inmate escapes were recorded in a turbulent year for the prison system, the Prison Department said in its annual report, released yesterday.

Between April last year and last March, 192 prisoners escaped from closed jails and 85 escaped from escorts, the report said. A further 980 absconded either from a working party, an open prison or while outside on trust.

The report said the most serious escape occurred when a remand prisoner, provisionally placed, in the highest security category, was removed by force from the custody of prison officers at a London hospital. Three officers required hospital treatment.

Forty-five of the prisoners who escaped from closed jails got away during disturbances between April and May last year at the time of national industrial action by the Prison Officers' Association. The worst incidents were on the night of April 30.

The increasing tension indicated by jails is shown by 45 reported incidents of concerted indiscipline, most of which were passive demonstrations involving mainly refusals to work or eat.

There were 20 roof-climbing incidents, involving 46 prisoners. At Wormwood Scrubs, west London, one prisoner stayed on the roof for more than six weeks. At the Risley remand centre, Cheshire, 18 prisoners remained on the roof for five days, causing "considerable" damage.

There were 13 hostage incidents, three involving mem-

bers of staff. Prisoners were taken hostage in another 10 incidents. The most serious incident was at Grendon, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, in October last year when an inmate hostage required hospital treatment.

The report said that explaining the effects of crime and encouraging young people to be responsible citizens is an important way of reducing crime. Research into the wilful damage of education facilities is to be completed this year.

The number of vulnerable prisoners who had to be segregated from others for their own protection increased from fewer than 700 adult males at the end of 1985 to more than 1,400 on January 1 this year. In addition, more than 200 prisoners were held in three national units for vulnerable prisoners at Maidstone, Gloucester and Wakefield. Extra regional units were created at Wandsworth, south London, and Bristol prisons.

Ninety-four inmates identified as being infected by the Aids virus were in need of special treatment or precautions. Report on the Work of the Prison Service 1986-87 (Stationery Office; £15.40).

Weekend food prices

Large supplies of top quality fish available

Fishing fleets did well during the spell of good weather before the latest gales. Shoppers can be sure of a wide range of good quality fish for the weekend.

Haddock is more plentiful and large cod, codling and plaice are superb. Huss is cheap at about £1.10 a lb. Supplies of lemon soles were patchy during the week, but there were superb specimens at Billingsgate on Wednesday at between £2.20 and £2.90 a lb. Medium and large size skate wings are about £2 a lb. Herring is down in price to an average 90p a lb and mackerel costs between 30 and 86p a lb.

Smoked mackerel and kippers are down 2-3p a lb. Large rainbow trout are a little cheaper this week at about £2.20 a lb, and for those who like the exotic, there are bourgeois at about £3.10 a lb, kingfish at £4.25 and the colourful parrot fish at £3 a lb. A consignment of live Dublin Bay prawns arrived at Billingsgate, priced at £4.50 a lb. Irish and Welsh mussels are 45p a pint. Medium to large scallops are about 70p each.

Meat prices are generally stable, apart from home-produced lamb, up a few pence a lb on most cuts. However, Safeway stores have leg and shoulder on special offer at £1.58 and 78p a lb respectively. Pork prices fluctuated very little.

Changes in beef prices are negligible. Roasting foreleg on the bone is about £1.52 a lb, boneless brisket is between £1.58 and £1.85 a lb and

topside and silverside are £1.98 and £2.40 a lb. Sirloin steak is down in price in some shops.

There are good offers on New Zealand lamb at Dewhurst, where whole leg costs £1.39 a lb nationwide and whole shoulder 69p in the South-east. Other meat and poultry offers available this week are — Tesco: fresh boneless pork steaks, £1.29 a lb and foreleg of beef, £1.68 a lb. Presto: frozen minced beef, £1.99 for a 2lb bag. Asda: home-produced, fresh-basted chicken, 66p a lb and home-produced braising steaks, £1.49 a lb. Gateway: pork loin chops, £1.49 a lb. Sainsbury: whole New Zealand Lamb leg, 98p a lb and sirloin steak, £2.98 a lb.

Supplies of Spanish oranges may be reduced due to severe flooding in the Valencia area, however, with many other sources of supply, a shortage is unlikely. Clementines at 35 to 40p a lb are new in the shops and satsumas, 26 to 40p a lb, are still a firm favourite. Bananas, 35 to 55p a lb, could be the ideal fruit for Christmas shoppers as they contain potassium, which helps to relieve stress.

Home-grown vegetables are plentiful and of good quality. Cauliflowers are between 40 and 60p each; swedes, 16 to 18p a lb; parsnips, 15 to 35p a lb; Brussels sprouts, 20 to 30p a lb; leeks, 35 to 55p a lb; mushrooms, 40 to 60p a half-lb, and potatoes are from 10p a lb. Spanish and the first of the Canary Island tomatoes are a best buy at 40 to 60p a lb.

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WORLD SUM

Dhaka poli shoot rioter

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Remials in Tur

14 die in US storm

Rabuka promo

Hayward ple to carry on f

Contra talks mee travels to Washi

Unita claims all the credit for victory

Summoned to the reviewing stand by Dr Savimbi, Colonel Garcia, apparently under the impression that he was about to be shot by a firing squad, said: "I am prepared to die." Dr Savimbi assured him this was not the case.

Rabuka promotion

Hayward pledges to carry on fight

He has worked out the exact time he expects to be freed from all the time off for good

Contra talks mediator travels to Washington

The Cardinal's departure was as the Nicaraguan Army continued a major military operation against Contra forces near the town of Masmas, 120 miles north of Managua, in an effort to thwart an expected rebel offensive. An army spokesman said three elite counter-battalions.

mobility and portable anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons, had been achieved without the assistance of South Africa.

"We have neutralized all the air power of the MPLA," he said. "We have shot down every kind of plane they had."

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Kremlin secrecy on sacking of Yeltsin angers Muscovites

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Muscovites reacted with bewilderment yesterday to the sacking of the Kremlin reformer, Mr Boris Yeltsin, expressing anger at the paucity of information about his removal and a surprising degree of sympathy for a man now banished to the political wilderness.

Questions from *The Times* to passengers on Moscow's crowded underground, where the former head of the city's Communist Party had earlier staged one of his walkabouts to hear complaints first-hand, showed that two years of glasnost has led Soviet citizens to expect less secrecy from their leaders.

"I feel very sorry for the man on a personal level: he was the leading proponent of reform," explained a bespectacled aviation engineer, who was busy reading the meagre page-two *Pravda* report on the demise of Mr Yeltsin when he spoke at the busy Smolenskaya station. "The trouble is that we have been given such little information that it is impossible to make a proper judgement. On a serious issue like this, we should be told exactly what 'political mistakes' Comrade Yeltsin is supposed to have made. He

always impressed me as a very energetic man, just the type we need."

Yelena, an economist in her early thirties, was equally outspoken in her criticism of the lack of details so far provided by the Communist Party, which has pledged only to publish at some unspecified date what happened at the crucial meeting on Wednesday when Mr Yeltsin was formally deposed. She said: "We have been told the truth about Brezhnev and about Khrushchev, but not about this. That is not right."

"We are led by competent people, so I do not think they would have made a mistake by getting rid of Yeltsin. But so far I have only heard rumours. I saw him as a new broom who swept the old thinkers away in front of him. It will be easier for (Mr Lev) Zaikov (his successor), because so many of the old timers have gone."

Yelena, like other commuters I spoke to, had no criticisms of Mr Yeltsin, whom she claimed had done a good job since taking charge of the Moscow party in December, 1985. "We still have terrible shortages of things like meat. At least he looked as though

he was trying to get things done."

The main concern about Mr Yeltsin's departure was to be found among young intellectuals. They see his exit as a clear signal that the new-found freedoms they have been enjoying in all the arts will disappear as the conservatives, led by Mr Yegor Ligachev, the austere party ideology chief, regain the upper hand.

"Everybody is asking why he has gone, what did he do wrong apart from speaking his mind?" someone who did not want to be named said. "The worry among my friends is that his removal will mean that other people will now be afraid to speak out. We thought that was allowed under the new conditions of socialist democracy."

Again and again I encountered resentment among the train users that they had no information to go on beyond two statements in the official *Tass* report.

These said there had been "major shortcomings" in Mr Yeltsin's leadership of the Moscow party, and his now notorious speech to the Central Committee on October 21 was "politically mistaken".

Honouring an ancient king



Mr Kim Jong Pil, the former South Korean Prime Minister and a presidential candidate, with his son (right) wearing ritual garments yesterday to visit the tomb near Pusan of an ancient forebear, King Suro, who died in AD 195. Meanwhile in Seoul yesterday Mr Kim Dae

Jung, the veteran democracy campaigner, launched a new party, the Party for Peace and Democracy, and won a unanimous nomination to bid for the presidency in the December 16 poll (Reuters reports). Thousands of supporters at a Seoul rally voted for his candidacy.

US budget deficit

Horse-trading in full glare of publicity

From Bailey Morris, Washington

As the world watches in nervous fascination, the White House and Congress are performing a complicated political dance over the US budget deficit, that always runs the risk of an abrupt end.

Participants in the unprecedented negotiations which have dragged on into a third week, have signalled from their hideaway that the general outlines of an agreement are near. They could be announced today.

The White House said yesterday that an agreement was close and that "the President wants a compromise". The numbers which have been floated, in a daily barrage of leaks from the "inner sanctum", are from \$25 billion (£14 billion) to \$32 billion (£20 billion) in deficit reductions in the current fiscal year, which began in October. This would include a tax increase, formerly anathema to President Reagan, of about \$10 billion (£5.6 billion).

This negotiating in public of what, arguably, is the world's most pressing economic problem has been the pattern of the talks from the start. It is the reason there is cause for concern, according to officials involved in the talks.

At no point in the negotiations have the main players moved into a back room, drawing a veil of silence over the talks while they trade taxes for missiles, health care benefits for asset sales. This is the way substantive negotiations are normally conducted.

Democrat leaders in Congress have conducted extensive private polls, which suggest that "we are winning on this issue", according to a high-level official.

"President Reagan is perceived as the problem." It is for this reason, as the 1988 presidential election campaign gets into full swing, that the Democrats are unwilling to budge on a tax increase. "We are not going to take the political heat for unpopular domestic cuts unless the president and the Republicans take similar heat for unpopular taxes," said a Democrat participant.

The chief negotiators, Mr Thomas Foley, the House Democrat majority leader,

and Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, are aware that they must have a success.

Neither side wants to be seen as the cause of a collapse which could send world markets into a second "Great Crash". So they agreed to agree on a general framework which would be announced with much fanfare. The details, however, the tough decisions on specific taxes and expenditure levels for individual programmes that will be cut, would be left to individual committees of Congress.

This adds another layer to the negotiations, which could take months to complete. The Tax and Appropriations Committees of Congress have resisted strongly similar proposals in the past. "Once you have a broad outline, you have to do the details and the details are hard to come by," said Senator Bennett Johnson, one of the negotiators.

As an indication of the difficulty, Mr Frank Carducci, the Defense Secretary designate, suddenly demanded more money for the military as the talks neared a conclusion late on Wednesday, and the announcement of an agreement was called off.

A further important complication is the fact that President Reagan is still not directly involved in the talks, and it is still not clear whether he will accept \$10 billion (£5.6 billion) in new taxes. The leaders of the House and the Senate have privately requested a personal session with the President to gauge his support, but have been rebuffed.

Treasury officials have confirmed privately that the strategy of the Administration team has been to negotiate in the glare of the world spotlight with the aim of reaching a bipartisan agreement which can be presented to the President as one having strong political support. The theory is that he will not want to be seen as the person who torpedoed the deal.

But given his recent public statements, this is by no means certain. At the end of the day, the President, not the Treasury Secretary, will have the final say.

Washington - It is impossible to be here for even a few days now without appreciating how significant is the decline in the Reagan presidency - there has been a distinct change even since my last visit at the beginning of March.

Then the President was like a severely wounded but still formidable animal. It was the time of the Tower Commission report on the Iran-Contra scandal, which made him seem a detached and ineffective leader. But the memory of his dominance was still so fresh that he continued to command much respect as well as affection.

The affection remains, but there is a widespread feeling in Washington that he is losing his grip as President. There has not been the smack of firm leadership in the economic crisis. Equally revealing in Washington eyes has been the debacle over the appointment of a new Supreme Court Justice.

So what has gone wrong, and how serious is it? Part of the trouble can be ascribed to natural causes. There is inevitably a loss of momentum in the seventh year of a presidency. No longer does Mr Reagan have the same physical and mental energy, which is hardly surprising at his age.

The sense that he is a lame duck was much strengthened last year by the loss of the Republican majority in the Senate. On the night of the mid-term elections, I asked a then senior member of the Reagan camp at a private party in Washington whether it would really matter all that much which party controlled the Senate, given Mr Reagan's personal ascendancy.

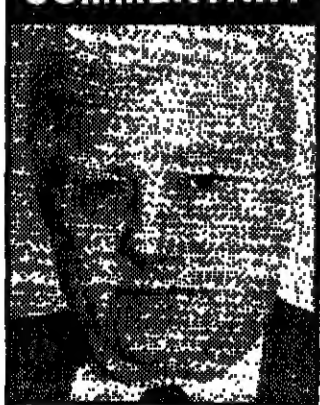
Oh yes it would, he replied. The Administration would find it much harder to get things done and therefore to keep the political initiative. He spoke like a man who had received a body-blow.

Yet all might still have been reasonably well but for two factors. One was the Iran-Contra affair. The country may now be bored by the saga, but it destroyed the President's reputation for toughness and judgement under pressure.

The other factor was the lack of an effective Chief of Staff. A President with as much disregard for detail as Mr Reagan must depend heavily on his right-hand man; and there has, I believe, been a distinct change in the quality of the Reagan presidency since Mr James Baker ceased to be Chief of Staff.

He was a capable admin-

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

istrator and a forceful adviser, with sensitive political antennae. Mr Donald Regan, who succeeded him, was an equally tough administrator although he lacked political sensitivity. Now, Mr Howard Baker is proving a surprising disappointment.

He was never expected to be much of an administrator, but he must have acute political antennae. Yet he is turning out to be a compliant adviser who does not push his opinion and is therefore not sufficiently influential.

What is extraordinary is that Mr Reagan should be so relaxed about the choice of the person who matters so much to him. The swap of posts arranged between Mr James Baker and Mr Regan to make Mr Regan Chief of Staff, which was then blindly accepted by the President, was one of the most bizarre episodes in modern politics.

Mr Howard Baker was appointed after no more than a brief telephone conversation. Nonchalance has been one of Mr Reagan's principal assets, but now it is his principal weakness. The ease with which power seemed to sit on his shoulders was a most

A bizarre episode in modern politics

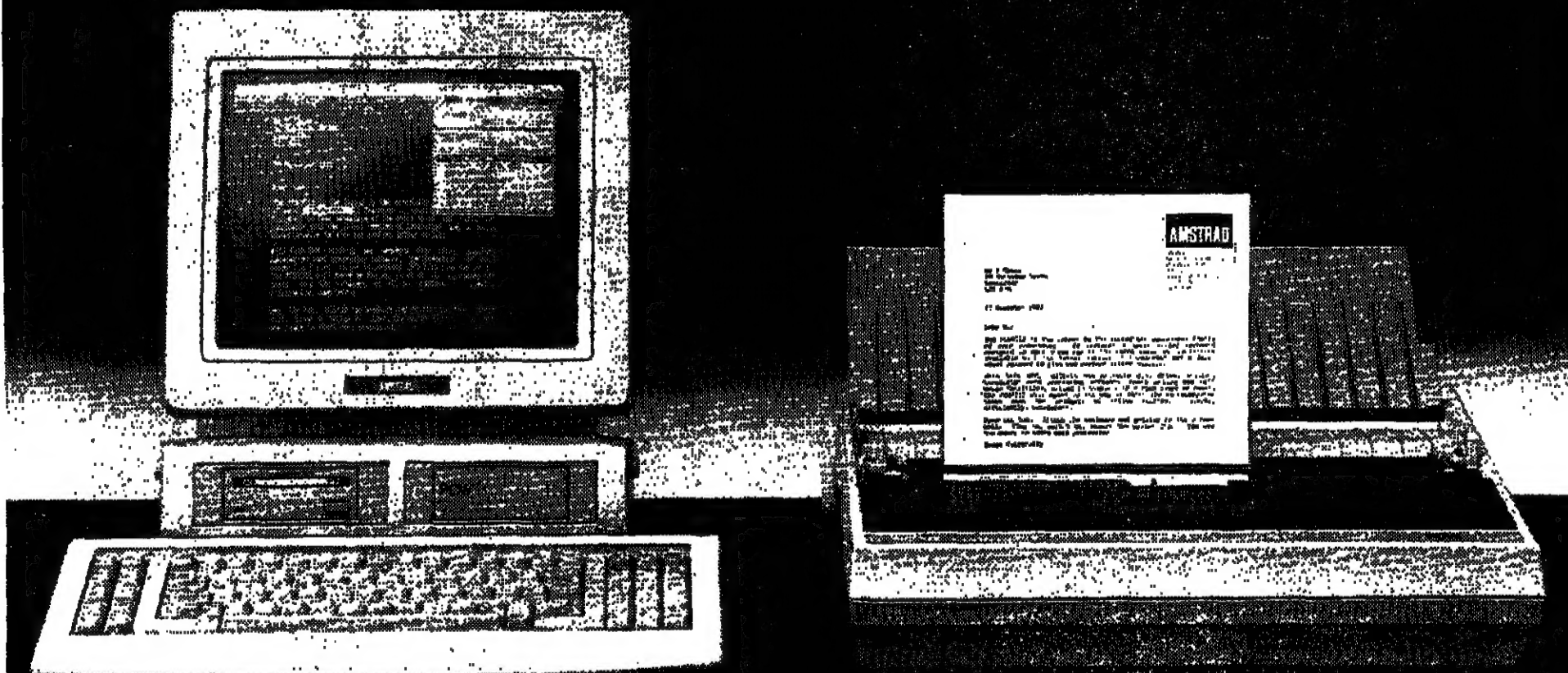
attractive quality. But he has been too careless to remain on top of the job.

For six years in the White House he displayed remarkable political gifts. Had his presidency ended then, he would be seen in a very different light today.

He remains a spirited and sometimes stubborn old man, who is by no means programmed by his staff on those issues which concern him deeply. But I do not believe that even a successful summit would restore his former easy ascendancy. It is a matter now of getting through a presidency that reached its natural conclusion a year ago.

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Threat to Amman summit accord

Libya quick to open first chink in new Arab unity

From Ian Murray, Amman

Libya's Major Abdul Salam Jalloud looked out of place as he lolled back in his orange leather chair at the Royal Cultural Centre here at the closing ceremony of the extraordinary Arab summit meeting. The gathering condemned Iran and allowed relations with Egypt for the first time in nine years.

Alone of those delegation leaders in Western dress, he wore no tie. With his curly, tousled hair and big grin he looked more like an unruly teenager than the leader of his delegation. The absence of a tie was a kind of symbol. Within minutes of the last brotherly handshake, Major Jalloud was saying that the final statement was nothing but an "American-inspired" fabrication to divert attention from Israel, the Arabs' main enemy, and that Libya was not to be bound by it.

Jordanian officials, anxious to convey the message of King Hussein that a new era for moderate Arab unity was dawning, were publicly undismayed. They explained that this was what could be expected from Libya. It did not matter because the summit had achieved its main aim

in bringing about reconciliation between Syria and Iraq. That reconciliation will require a great deal of expensive maintenance - newspapers in Damascus and Baghdad are continuing to vilify the regimes in each other's country. Syria is continuing its support for Iran, against which Iraq failed to win agreement on any tangible sanctions.

The summit outcome, although an undoubted triumph for the King's diplomacy, begs the question, "How long will it last?"

Fear has provided the cat-



Major Jalloud: Libya not bound by final statement.

alyst. The real threat of Iran and its fundamentalist message has concentrated the minds on the oil-rich Gulf states in a way that the Palestinian issue never could.

Since they remain the paymasters of the Arab Nation, they have had to buy the unity. Syria and Lebanon, with their exhausted economies, have a price. Jordan, with its huge defence budget, always needs money; Sudan has long been eager to regularize its relations with its great Egyptian neighbour.

In the Maghreb, moderate Morocco and troubled Mauritania have too many problems with the Polisario to be deeply concerned about the far-off Middle East. Algeria is concentrating on finding economic stability. Tunisia has a new regime. For all of them, fundamentalism is a real threat and a declared stand against Iran is a help.

So unity has been brought about by a combination of fear and lack of money. In all of the arguments, the Palestinian issue, which has been the cause of so many past Arab divisions, scarcely surfaced.

For Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO, found him-

self largely ignored for most of the time he was here and, in consequence, boycotted a dinner. The King compensated by giving him two lunches and promising that the PLO was the "one true legitimate representative of the Palestinian people".

But the King also told the PLO leader that their long-standing quarrel remains. If Mr Arafat wants to take part in the international peace conference the summit endorsed as the proper forum for opening negotiations, then he will have to obtain his "visa". To get that he must accept the UN resolutions giving Israel the right to exist within secure borders.

That would mean Mr Arafat giving way on his main negotiating point before talks start, which he cannot do. But, until he does, he seems doomed to kick his heels in the corridors. His attempts to adopt a moderate position have estranged him from Syria and the more radical countries. Now the moderate position of the Arab unity leaves him isolated. The Arab unity may be fragile, but while it lasts Mr Arafat is even lonelier than ever.

Veteran tribute spans the generations



Bobby Rivers, aged 17, left, cocooned in the American flag to keep warm during the Veterans Day parade in Atlanta. Mr Tom Hyde, aged 93, right, a veteran of the First World War, was the oldest person to take part in Denver's ceremony.



Green light for Tamil autonomy Bills

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

The Sri Lankan Parliament yesterday approved by 136 votes to 11 two controversial Bills which will give more autonomy to the Tamil minority in the island's Northern and Eastern provinces and create provincial councils.

While Parliament was deliberating, violence continued in the troubled Northern province. Twenty-five civilians were killed when a land mine exploded under a bus near Periyankulam, security forces said. The main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation

Tigers of Tamil Eelam, are believed to be responsible for the explosion.

The three-day debate on the two Bills - one of which will create provincial councils akin to the state governments of India while the other alters the Sri Lankan Constitution to devolve power - was conducted under strict security because the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna party, which spearheaded opposition to the proposed measures, had threatened to kill MPs who voted for the Bills. Two ministers and 16

MPs were guarded in a hotel and taken to Parliament by special transport.

During the debate Sinhala extremists exploded bombs, cut power lines, sabotaged railway lines and burnt buses.

Two Government MPs from the deep south, where there has been violent agitation against the Bills from the majority Sinhala community, showed their disapproval. Mr Gaman Jayasuriya, the Minister of Agriculture, resigned both from his portfolio and Parliament, while Mr Cyril Mathew, who was sacked as

Industries Minister by President Jayewardene in December 1985, voted against.

The debate also ended speculation about the stand Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, the Prime Minister, would take on the issue. He said he would vote for the Bills as they did not affect the sovereignty and unity of the island, but he would oppose the merger of the Northern and Eastern provinces. The merger is for one year until a referendum is held in the Eastern province to decide if the people there want to make the union permanent.

Gulf envoys plan UN talks despite Iran anger

By Our Foreign Staff

Iran reacted strongly yesterday to the final communiqué of the Arab summit in Amman on Wednesday, which gave full support to Iraq, its foe in the Gulf War.

The Foreign Ministry in Tehran said that Iran saw the "failed and impotent efforts of

reactionary Arab leaders in Amman as a step along the American path of aggression", and would "deal the appropriate response to the United States and its dependants in the region".

In Tokyo, senior envoys from Iraq and Iran said they planned to visit the United Nations soon for separate

peace talks with Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, its Secretary-General, a Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman announced. Mr Tareq Aziz, the Foreign Minister of Iraq, would arrive in New York today. An envoy from Tehran would visit the Secretary-General after Mr Aziz left.

In the Gulf, Iraqi warplanes

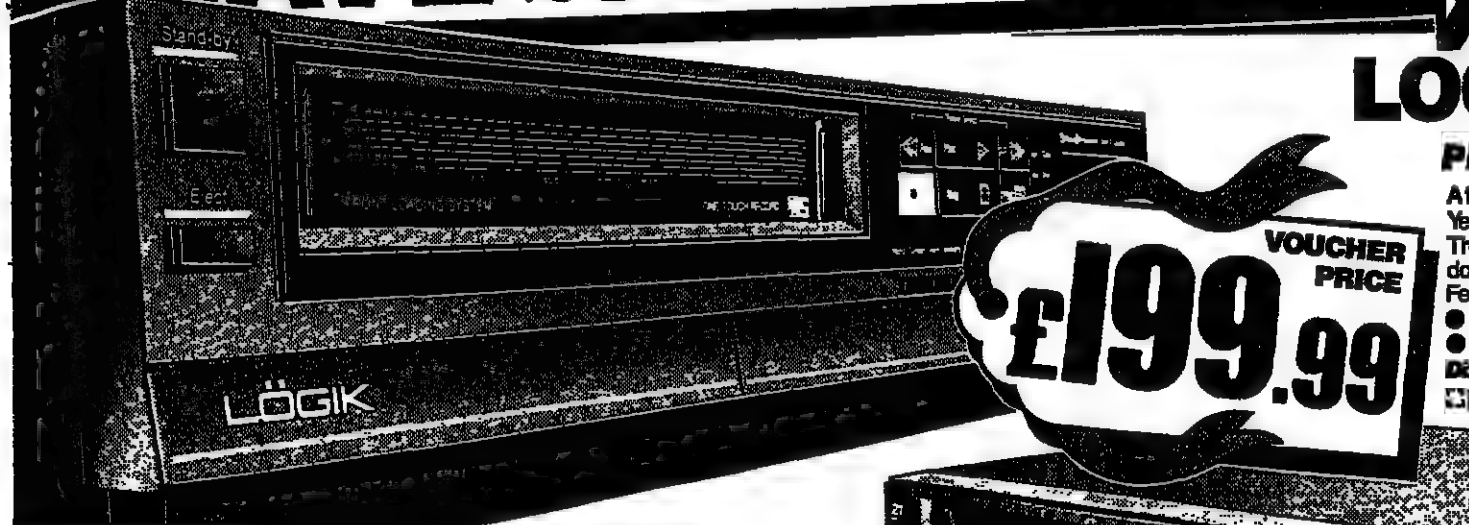
hit a Greek supertanker, the 264,198-tonne Fortuneship L, and an unidentified vessel as the number of air attacks on shipping with Iranian links in the waterway climbed yesterday to six in four days.

The supertanker owners said their vessel briefly caught fire, but there were no casualties among the 25-strong crew.

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Slovenia gains prestige Financial strength of republic envied

From Richard Bassett, Ljubljana

Small nations traditionally occupy the back seat in Balkan politics. The inhabitants of Slovenia, Yugoslavia's northernmost republic, have long inured themselves to statistical reality.

In a country where the population touches 20 million, barely a million Yugoslavs understand Slovene. Spread this from the eastern Alps to the Adriatic, they have survived the turmoil of centuries by a well-judged policy of keeping their heads low.

In 1848, when most nationalities in Central Europe were up in arms against the Austrians, the Slovenes limited themselves to hurling the occasional portrait of Mettrich into the Sava river.

Such attitudes of studied indifference, however, are threatened by Yugoslavia's financial crisis. Economic difficulties have highlighted the plodding industriousness of the Slovenes, who now find themselves the most prosperous republic, wielding economic power out of proportion to their numbers.

An efficient Western-oriented economy, with a tradition of hard but reliable bargaining, is something of a luxury in Yugoslavia. In Ljubljana, the Alpine capital of Slovenia, prices are double those in Croatian Zagreb and three times higher than in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro, less prosperous republics.

In what more southern Yugoslavs have dubbed "economic nationalism", the Slovenes behave with a mixture of detachment and contempt towards the financial problems of the poorer republics.

In the wake of the Agrokomerc scandal, which has rocked the country and discredited Bosnia-Herzegovina financial dealings, the Slovenes have acted with almost Germanic ruthlessness. Banks refuse to accept cheques drawn on Bosnian accounts, and some Bosnian businessmen have even had their funds frozen here.

This does not endear the Slovenes to the Serbs in Belgrade. Already paranoid about Albanian nationalism in the troubled Kosovo region, they fear that the Slovenes are becoming a little too big for their boots.

Symbolizing this, and a further sign of the Slovenes' financial power, is the fact that

it is the only republic with its own airline. For two years Inex Adria has competed on many domestic routes with the national airline, JAT.

Though not easy to convey to readers in a country of tens of millions, it means an awful lot to the Slovenes to hear an air stewardess go through the safety drill in their own language.

Though Western observers have for many years considered Slovenia the republic with most to gain from a federal Yugoslavia - on account of its size - a more self-reliant note is being struck increasingly by the republic.

A manager, dressed in the latest American style, insisted: "If we were alone, we would have no financial problems. We could be an eastern Switzerland or Liechtenstein."



between Italy and Austria, useful for all.

Such sentiments are often encountered in Ljubljana, where there is widespread resentment at the late Tito's policies of "diluting" the northern republics with workers from the south. At night the once-fashionable Tivoli Promenade responds to the cries and breaking of glass which denote excess.

For decades great Slovene architects and artists strove to express their country's unique identity. The celebrated Slovene architect, Jozef Plecnik, rebuilt Ljubljana using classical and Mediterranean motifs; it forms an unfamiliar and alien stage for Serbs and Bosnians.

Today the Slovenes strive to resist "balkanization" in a more robust way, by developing a strong economy. However unwelcome the inflation, debts and financial scandals of the crisis are in Slovenia, no one can deny that it has strengthened the hand of the Slovenes. They may soon no longer be in the back seat of their country's politics.

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Aborigines' cell 'suicide' inquiry gets under way

From Keith Dalton, Sydney

An investigation began yesterday into the deaths since 1980 of 63 Aborigines in Australian police custody. There have been a record 16 jail deaths this year.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, who said he was "seriously disturbed" by the deaths, ordered the former Northern Territory Supreme Court Justice, Mr James Muirhead, to find out why so many detained Aborigines were dying in police custody or jail, most of them apparently suicides.

The most common method was hanging, using blankets, vests and in one case, a sock. Other deaths were recorded as the result of heart attacks, brain injuries, natural causes and "misadventure".

Police and non-government investigators pinpoint similarities in the well-publicized suicides. Most were teenagers or young men, usually drunk, and often arrested for minor offences. Many died within hours of being locked up in generally squalid cells.

Although making up only 1.5 per cent of the population, Aborigines account for more than 10 per cent of Australia's prisoners — a stark reminder of the poor living and social conditions of Aborigines, whose life expectancy is 20

years below that of white Australians.

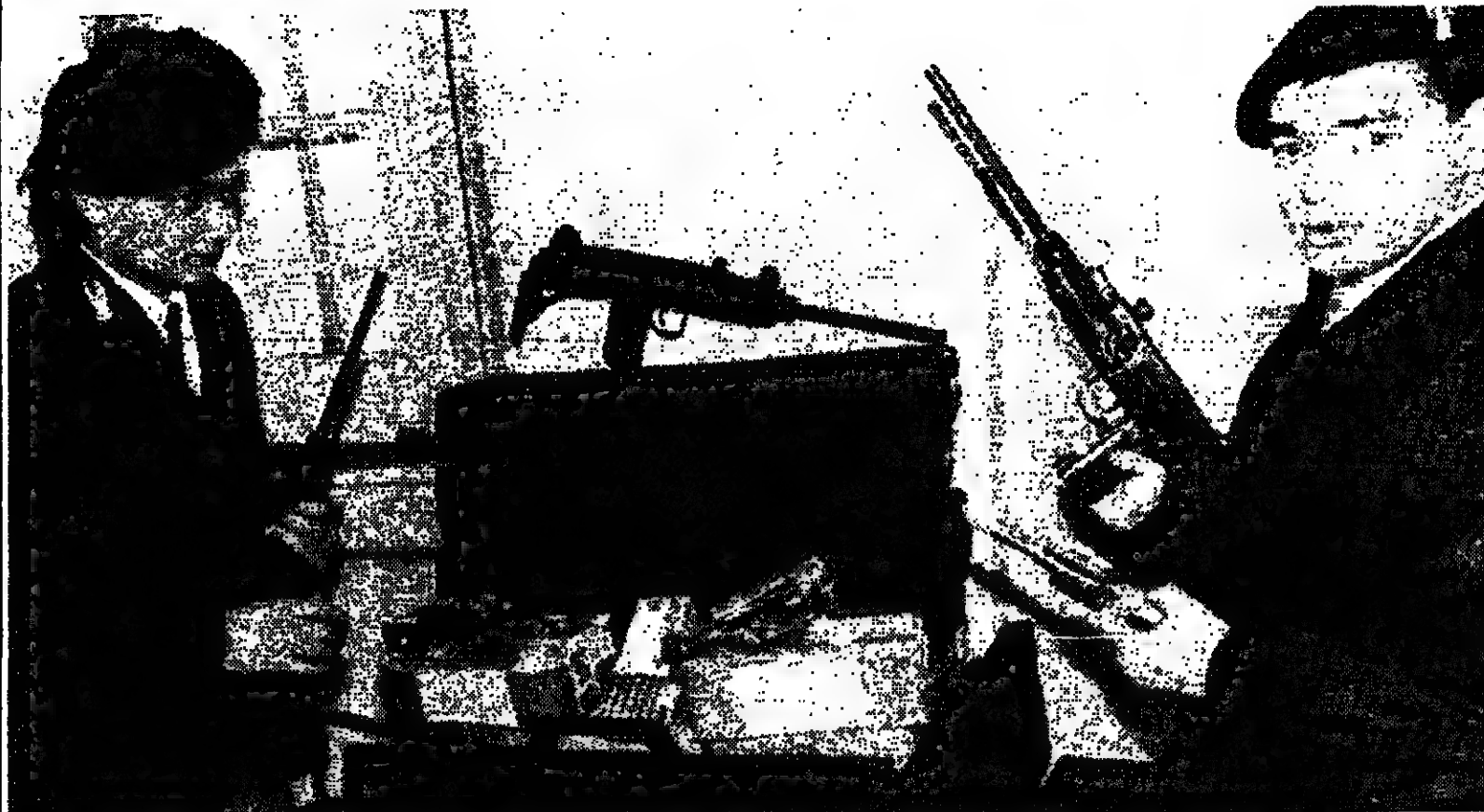
There have been 20 deaths in Western Australia, 12 in New South Wales, 11 in Queensland, nine each in South Australia and the Northern Territory, and one each in Victoria and Tasmania.

Justice Muirhead, at a press conference, said the deaths were a "sad and continuing history which should be unacceptable to a society which espouses principles of justice and fair dealing."

"It is not, to my mind, only a question of ascertaining how Aborigines in custody died... but why they died and continue to die," he told 150 reporters, lawyers, black activists and the families of some victims.

Over the next year, Justice Muirhead will visit 32 towns, cities and Aboriginal communities to investigate the circumstances of each death.

Reluctant witnesses have been promised protection during and after the inquiry. But many black activists fear a cover-up. They say the onus of proof should be on the police to show that the deaths in custody were really because of suicide and not the result of police mistreatment.



Police officers inspecting the haul of armaments and ammunition seized on board the Guernsey-registered yacht, the Cedar Sea II, in Genoa.

Italy steps up drive against arms traffic

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Italian police searching a luxurious British-flagged yacht have unearthed a cache of Israeli Uzi machine-guns and other small arms, the prosecutor's office in the northern port of Genoa said yesterday.

The action is part of a new crackdown on the international arms trade by the Italian authorities in which they have been empowered to stop arms cargoes in transit.

In Savona, near Genoa, the

Customs recently seized a ship, bound for the Gulf from Liverpool, and discovered several hundred crates of machine-guns, some of them assembled in Britain.

Last week, a ship carrying two tanks — not recorded in the shipping documents — was intercepted in Italian waters en route to West Germany, and the latest French haul of apparently Libyan guns and rockets bound for the IRA has sharpened the senses of the Italian Customs and prosecutors.

The boat, the Cedar Sea II,

was registered in Guernsey and flies the Union Jack, but, according to investigators, is part of an international arms transaction that stretches well beyond British shores.

The handsome, bright white yacht is owned by Mouawad Marine Ltd, a Geneva company headed by Mr Robert Mouawad, a Lebanese banker. The manager of the yacht, Mr Youssef Hassan Mouawad, aged 29, is a relative of the owner and officially a resident of Saudi Arabia. The 27 crew were on their way from Cap d'Antibes in France to the

Middle East and had put in to Genoa for repairs.

The Italians, acting on a tip-off, interrogated the captain of the Cedar Sea II, a Venezuelan named Señor Leonardo Bedin. He was living in Italy while the yacht was being refitted. The captain admitted that there were arms on board, but could not give details because crew members were forbidden to enter the room where they were hidden.

The master cabin is paneled with cedar wood, and is decorated with jade statues. The en suite bathroom has

gold fittings. Behind the panels and under the floor, the Customs found six Uzi machine-guns and several powerful hand-guns.

Mr Mouawad, according to his lawyers, argued that the guns were needed for self-protection in dangerous sea lanes. The Italian prosecutors do not believe that version, and are trying to unravel what they view as a complex international arms deal. Mr Mouawad had been arrested and accused of illegally importing weapons into Italian territory.

Hostage gang takes £8m in bank raid

Brussels (AFP) — Three armed men escaped with a haul worth nearly £8 million after taking 13 hostages and forcing their way into the vaults of a bank during a public holiday in Belgium, police said here.

The men called at the homes of three bank employees and seized 13 people before driving to the Bruxelles-Lambert bank in Gemboux, 25 miles south-east of Brussels, where they forced the employees to open the vaults.

They spent the night and the following day — a holiday commemorating the Armistice — emptying 150 vaults before escaping. The alarm was then raised by the hostages, who were unhurt.

Aircraft scare

Miami (Reuters) — A Pan-Am jet bound for Caracas made a forced landing here after violent turbulence over the Atlantic tossed passengers around the cabin, injuring at least 31 people.

Death crush

Jakarta (Reuters) — At least eight people died and 40 were injured in a crush to leave an East Java stadium after an open-air film show attended by about 5,000 Indonesians.

Minister out

Port Moresby (AFP) — The Papua New Guinea acting Foreign Minister, Mr Aruru Matiahe, has been sacked after making public statements contradicting the Prime Minister, Mr Pias Wingi.

Nun jailed

Hanoi (AFP) — Three Catholics, one a nun, have been jailed for up to five years for helping Vietnamese boat people flee the country, the official Army newspaper *Quan Doi Nhan Dan* said.

Food airlift

Delhi — Helicopters were used to airlift food to Nagaland in north-east India after students in the neighbouring state of Assam blocked land deliveries.

Opera arson

Bonn — Police in Frankfurt arrested a suspected arsonist after a £33.5 million fire destroyed the municipal opera house.

Rusty paper clip wrangle holds key to Demjanjuk's forgery claim

From Our Correspondent, Jerusalem

Dr Julius Grant, an eminent forensic chemist who testified this week in the war-crimes trial here of Mr John Demjanjuk, was the fourth defence witness to question the validity of a key piece of prosecution evidence, a Nazi identity card supposedly issued to the defendant.

A service pass from Trawniki training camp, where Mr Demjanjuk was alleged to have been before serving as a guard at Treblinka death camp, contains a photo of the defendant, his personal statistics, an equipment list and Nazi seals.

Three names are also signed on the card — those of camp com-

The West German attorney, Herr Goetz Polzien, was barred yesterday from testifying at Mr John Demjanjuk's war crimes trial in Jerusalem about his involvement in the 1980 acquittal of Mr Frank Walus, a Chicago man mistakenly convicted of being a Nazi war criminal (AP reports). Presiding Judge Dov Levine said the Walus case was irrelevant.

mander, Herr Karl Streibel, its quartermaster, Herr Ernst Teyfel, and Mr Demjanjuk. The Ukrainian-born defendant denies he was ever at Treblinka, and claims the card is a KGB forgery, part of a Soviet plot to punish him for

deserting his country during the Second World War.

Dr Grant, aged 86, testified that the card probably did not belong to Mr Demjanjuk. He said that the photo, which has two staple holes in it, may have been removed and replaced, and that the purported signature of Mr Demjanjuk did not match any originals of the defendant's with which he compared it.

There was a confrontation over another area that Dr Grant touched upon — two parallel rust marks over which Streibel's signature was written. The scientist said that these lines were made by a paper clip, and in his written statement said he had been told that such paper clips did not exist at that time

and place. The implication is that the paper clip was put on the card at a later date and Herr Streibel's signature, too, was also added later.

Mr Michael Shaked, the prosecution lawyer, pounced on the assertion that this particular type of paper clip did not exist then.

The lawyer produced a standard paper clip and asked Dr Grant if he knew its name. When the scientist admitted he did not, Mr Shaked produced a study of shapes, sizes, and brands of paper clips published by the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners. "I am sincerely grateful that I can add something to your knowledge of paper clips," Mr Shaked stated.

Later in the cross-examination, he returned to the subject. It had been previously established that the name of the paper clip he displayed was a "Gem". Mr Shaked, apparently trying to illustrate that Dr Grant knew nothing about paper clips and was therefore unqualified to make the statement he did, pulled out another type and asked if he knew what it was.

The witness examined it and answered: "With all due respect, I am sure that this is a paper clip, but I have never seen one like this before." Mr Shaked suppressed a smile as he said: "I am sorry I have to admit this paper clip as evidence in a case of this gravity."

Dr Grant, who uncovered the forgeries of both the Mussolini and Hitler diaries, appears to be the most credible defence witness to date. He stood up well to the rigorous cross-examination, unlike previous defence witnesses whose testimony seemed to be torn to shreds. Mr Anita Pritchard, a psychologist, was so devastated by the prosecution's questioning that she attempted suicide.

Six expert prosecution witnesses have pronounced the card authentic, but despite Dr Grant's credibility, it looks like the defence is fighting an uphill battle in its attempt to convince the court that the document is forged.

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SPECTRUM

Blot on the New Forest

The Verderers of the New Forest, guardians of the historic Hampshire acres, are up in arms today, and could do with a little help from their founding father, William the Conqueror. In a bitter and peculiarly English local drama worthy of *Blot on the Landscape*, this august body of caring commoners led by a peer seldom seen in the Upper House, finds itself at loggerheads with that upstart tier of land regulation, the County Council.

For this morning a group of Hampshire MPs is converging on the little town of Lyndhurst in the heart of the "forest" to see for themselves what plans the authority has laid to relieve the place of its summer bouts of traffic congestion. But the Verderers have not been invited to attend, and are complaining that it is they who are the true victims of bypass politics.

On the face of it, this is a story about a road — two miles of it, to be precise — with which the county intends to skirt the village, and, in so doing, build on the Crown Lands of the New Forest. But on closer inspection it touches on the heart of much larger issues — in particular the implications for planning procedures when oil exploration in the area comes to be considered (at least

'There's really not much doubt that a road should be built. The question is where'

one major oil company is believed to be preparing an application). More immediately, it touches on the use of the Private Bill in Parliament as a means of bypassing the traditional public inquiry.

During the coming weeks, the New Forest will become one of the biggest hot potatoes on the environmental agenda.

Last year the county council, wearied by a succession of inquiries and consultations into detour proposals, decided to deposit a Private Bill — the Hampshire (Lyndhurst Bypass) Bill — with the Lords. This it duly did last year, spurred by Councillor Major-General Rowland Mans CBE, a former director of the Military Assistance Office and a writer on defence and political affairs.

Although the author of a book on the complexities of Canada's constitution, the major-general has helped precipitate a constitutional crisis on his own doorstep. The Court of Verderers, which is charged with the preservation of the area, complained that under the New Forest Act of 1949 the transfer of forest land to a highway authority could only be made with its authority. This had been neither given, nor indeed asked for.

Cries of "Foul!" from the Hampshire beatlands.

By spring, a House of Lords select committee, under the chairmanship of Viscount Hood, met to ponder the Bill. Emplaced for the council was Sir Frank Layfield, QC, inspector of the inquiry into the Sizewell B nuclear power station between 1983 and 1985.

Ranged against the authority

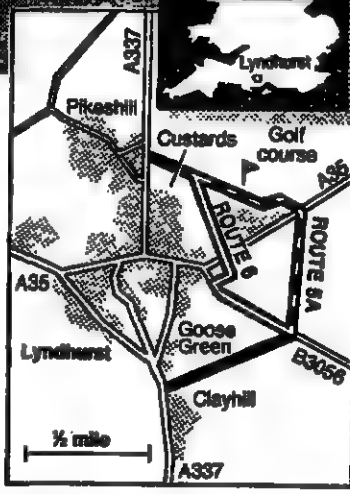
The Verderers line up against the County Council, a peer against a major-general in a peculiarly English dispute over a short stretch of road. Alan Franks reports from the rural front line



Hot potato: residents protesting at the site of the proposed Lyndhurst bypass. Map: route 5A shows the

proposed bypass: route 6 is that favoured by conservationists. The black line is common to both routes

place of tea shops, traders and traffic lights. Today, on a winter Friday, there are not too many hiccups in the flow of traffic. But during those 13 weekends of the summer season, the lines of cars stretch back for as much as three miles in either direction.



While some of the shopkeepers fear a loss of trade as a result of the bypass, most of the townsfolk are in favour, differing only over the exact route it should take, and how wide a berth it should give the town at the expense of the New Forest.

There's really not much doubt that some sort of a road should be built to solve the traffic problem, says Derry Seaton, leader of the New Forest Association. "The question is where. There are many of us here who believe that with a little more thought, and with a modification of something like 500 or 600 yards, it need not have such a severe impact on the forest."

"The forest," it has become an intensely emotive word at the core of a debate about quite other matters; the mixture of history, children, ponies and fiction is too potent to be omitted from a press release. But for all the conservationists' rhetoric about butterfly species and areas of natural vegetation, it is widely seen as a bit of a let-down — a bare necessity to be endured on the way to the coast.

But the conservationist lobby is still smarting from its defeat at the Battle of Okehampton two years ago, when it lost a rearguard action to stop a town bypass across Dartmoor National Park land.

Having been approved in principle by the report of the Lords select committee, the Lyndhurst Bill has now had its automatic first reading in the Commons; a second reading has been averted through a blocking motion by Andrew Bennett, Labour MP for Denton and Reddish, and is expected to be debated in the House in January.

Bennett is one of a growing number of members opposed to what they consider a "19th century-type abuse" of the Private Bill as a means of finding a rapid solution to impassable roads such as Lyndhurst. Historically, Private Bills (not to be confused with Private Member's Bills) have been used mainly by councils to acquire powers for local projects; they have been used less

'With a little more thought, it need not have such a severe impact on the forest'

frequently as town halls have acquired greater autonomy.

Meanwhile, Hampshire's hung council maintains that it has not ridden roughshod over the rights of the Verderers. "That suggestion is nonsense," a spokesman says. "The council has made it clear all along that everyone interested in the best solution to the traffic problem would have a chance to air their views. There have been two public inquiries already (both found against alternative routes); our belief is that the route presently proposed is a fair compromise between the ones which were discussed at those inquiries."

"They still have their chance to say what they want to, now that the matter is before Parliament."

Derry Seaton is unconvinced, and believes the council is premature. "I say we should wait and see what is going to happen in the light of other developments in the region. If, as many of us fear, a new coal-fired power station is to be forced on us over at Fawley, then we might have to rethink the question of road networks."

Duncan Mackay, deputy secretary of the county, but tenacious Open Spaces Society, is yet more critical. "The New Forest is a national park in all but name. Here is a county council who should be making common cause with us on how the local environment is to be best preserved. If we are going to fall over a hundred yards of bypass, one dreams to think what will happen when we consider even more momentous pieces of development, such as oil exploration in the region, as we will certainly have to before too long."

The raining attraction ...

Could anyone seriously think of selling wintertime Britain to the Americans? Henry Lewis is a man with a mission



Hooray for Henry: Lewis and Tudor (Terry Denton de Gray)

When Ronald Reagan launched his assault on Colonel Gaddafi in April 1986, not the least of the casualties was Henry Lewis from London. Only a few weeks earlier he had carried out an attack of his own on the United States, leading a small force to New York to persuade American travel agents to send more clients to Britain.

"Our trip was a fantastic success," recalls Lewis, never at a loss for a superlative. "I booked 34 groups to come over. Then Libya happened. The next morning I had 34 cancellations."

Lewis's company, Themes, which designs specialized itineraries for visitors, was badly hurt, but Lewis is not an individual to succumb to a single setback, however explosive. He bounced back. This week he began his fourth foreign sortie, his third on America, taking in Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Hartford, Connecticut. Included in his roadshow are Henry VIII (as played by Terry Denton de Gray) on behalf of a banquet business, a Scottish piper, the Pearly King Minstrels and representatives of some 50 British businesses — all beating the drum for Blighty.

His US trips are founded on the conviction that much of Britain has yet to be discovered by America. The countless excellent small attractions — from jousting displays and silk museums to speciality restaurants and remote towns — Lewis believes are unjustly neglected by foreign visitors.

"Americans' needs have changed," he says. "Now they want unusual things." But catching the eye of American travellers can be costly. "The usual trade shows

to the States are expensive," explains Lewis. "The known attractions can pay for them out of petty cash, but everyone else is out of luck."

"I thought I would receive some financial support," he says, "after all I am trying to attract people to Britain. But instead I have had to mortgage my house. The British Tourist Authority won't even give me maps to distribute free."

Among those who did respond to his purpose, though, were Scotland's new airline, Highland Express International, and Washington DC's even newer Grand Hyatt hotel. As a result, Lewis was able to offer small firms the chance to shine overseas.

"Britain has been so stupid," he says. "People imagine it is enough to sit at their booth at trade shows like wax figures. But this doesn't work in America any more."

The most dramatic measure of the success of Lewis's innovation is provided by former roadshow participants, such as Maria Glott, the tourism officer for Bradford. Within days of her appearance in New York last spring, she had American agents pounding the streets of Bradford. "We had several large bookings for the summer," says Glott. "Yet until this year 99 per cent of the agents had never heard of us."

The memory of such progress temporarily replaces the determination in Lewis's eyes with a glint of pleasure. Then he begins planning again. "In this and future shows we are stressing the low season," he exclaims. "Britain is incredibly attractive compared to America in winter."

Terry Doyle

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THE TIMES WOOL SWEATERS

These high quality fine-knit V-neck sweaters have the unmistakable softness of pure wool and are stylishly designed to look good on both men and women. The V-neck is a classic practical style, and the easy-fit raglan shoulders and ribbed neck cuffs and hem make these sweaters both smart and very comfortable. Team them with casual clothing for everyday leisure wear or with tailored skirts and trousers for more formal occasions. Scottish-made from 100% Botany wool, they can be hand-washed or dry-cleaned, returning to their silky softness every time.

To add an extra touch of distinction, we have arranged for some of the sweaters to be embroidered on the left breast, with 'The Times', in the paper's own typeface. Choose from the following: Navy blue with white embroidery, Wine with gold embroidery and Light blue with navy. Sizes: Small (34"-36"), Medium (38"-40"), Large (40"-42"), Extra Large (44"-46").

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Searching questions

Last March Sarah and Graham Robson instructed their solicitor to go ahead with the purchase of a house in Hackney. He asked the local authority to carry out the necessary searches and enquiries. By the time the Robsons were ready to exchange contracts — the first week of July — he still had heard nothing.

"We had to instruct him to carry out a personal search," Mrs Robson says. "And to this day we haven't seen the council's report, although I suppose the solicitor may have had it by now."

The Robson story is not unusual. At present Hackney is taking about 19 weeks to return a postal search, by far the worst record of any London borough. The average delay in London is two to four weeks, but Lambeth is taking 10-12 weeks, Southwark nine weeks, Brent eight weeks, and Islington and Ealing around six weeks. Yet Wandsworth, Hounslow and Havering take a week or less.

So what has gone wrong? A popular view is that the delays are political. David Ashford of the National Association of Conveyancers says: "Some councils look at the staff resources they've got and take the direct view that it's more important for people to get meals on wheels than to help the bloated bourgeoisie move from one high class kitchen suite to another. The result is months of delay."

Trevor Kent, of the National Association of Estate Agents, says: "If councils are totally unresponsive when you phone to find out what's happening, you suspect it's political. One of the reasons for gazumping is the inordinate delays on searches coming back. In 20 weeks a home can go up in

Why do council property searches take 19 weeks in Hackney and a week in Havering?



price a lot. It's hardly the owner's fault if someone walks in and offers £3,000 more."

But Hackney council says politics has nothing to do with the problem. According to John Durston, assistant to the chief executive, it is a result of staffing difficulties, which are now being solved. "The department wasn't run down for policy reasons," he says. "It was a gradual process without corrective action being taken."

He blames a "significant shift in the pace of the local market" and the fact that the number of staff in the legal department, which handles searches, had dropped to four by June. "Now we're up to six," he says. "We should have seven." Temporary staff have also been taken on. "We aim to clear the backlog from its unacceptable level by the end of the financial year. We are also looking at authorities who do things more

quickly, to see how they do it, and carrying out a feasibility study on computerization."

Last year Hackney handled about 8,000 searches. This year it expects about 10,000. Having handled 12,000 searches last year, this year it expects 13,000. They have four full-time staff and, says a spokesman, Ted Sears: "There is no magic system, simply a philosophy of turning the searches round in the shortest possible time. We usually take four to five days."

The Law Commission's Standing Consultative Committee is proposing to issue a consultative document putting forward a range of options that could speed up the system. Caroline Lonsdale, the committee secretary, says: "Computerization is one. Another possibility is that there should be a statutory duty on local authorities to respond within a certain time."

For the moment, the hapless house owner faced with long delays can put in for searches as soon as he puts his house on the market, and offer to sell these to any would-be buyer. Or the purchaser may have to rely on a personal search, carried out by his solicitor, or a personal search agency at an additional fee of around £50. This can often be done within 24 hours.

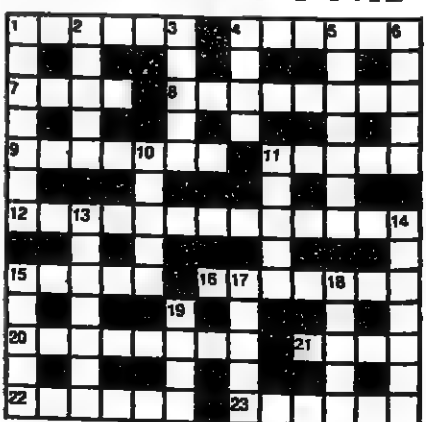
But the irony is that these desperate measures may serve to perpetuate the delays. As Simon Dunne, director of the PSA search agency says: "When people make an offer for a house, they are putting in for a search. They may end up making two or three offers before they buy — that's several false searches."

Lee Rodwell

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1412

ACROSS
1 Yield (6)
4 Alcohol (6)
7 Metal decay (4)
8 In open air (8)
9 Rejected person (7)
11 Royal Horse Guards (5)
12 Crown Jewels for-
ness (5,2,6)
15 Whipped (5)
16 Washington river (7)
20 Pink wader (8)
21 Wheels bar (4)
22 Feel very angry (6)
23 Commotion (6)



DOWN
1 Tidy (4,3)
2 Attack from all sides (5)
3 Railed trolley (5)
4 Attic (4)
5 Not reliable (7)
6 Mass disturbances (5)

10 Sharp, bitter (5)
11 Swell (5)
12 Alfred the Great's birthplace (7)
14 Core (7)
15 Sleeve ends (5)
17 Small (5)
18 Confused situation (3-2)
19 On one occasion (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1411

ACROSS: 1 Locust 4 Tamper 9 Tornado 10 Carol 11 Room 12 Meissen 14 Fin-de-Siècle 18 Sidcar 19 Twig 22 Reels 24 Toccata 25 Allude 26 Fluent
DOWN: 1 Lots 2 Cargo 3 Spasmodic 5 Arc 6 Parasol 7 Relent 8 Commiserate 11 Ref 13 Identical 15 Indwell 16 Egg 17 Ishtar 20 Image 21 Gait 23 Sad

THE TIMES SATURDAY



A ski special

With the ski slopes attracting an increasing number of Britons every year, *The Times* presents a guide to the places to go, which ones are best for families, how to find the package deal that best suits your budget — and the special pleasures of Christmas in Zermatt

Trading glare
licity

is, Washington
and Mr James Baker, the US
Treasury Secretary, are aware
that they must have a success.

Neither side wants to be
seen as the cause of a collapse
which could send world mar-
kets into a second "Great
Crash". So they agreed to
agree on a general framework
which would be announced
with much fanfare. The de-
tails, however, the tough de-
cisions on specific taxes and
expenditures for individ-
ual programmes that will be
cut, would be left to individual
committees of Congress.

This adds another layer in
the negotiations, which could
take months to complete. The
Tax and Appropriations
Committee of Congress has
resisted strongly similar pro-
posals in the past. "Once you
have a rough outline, you
have to do the details and the
details are hard to come by,"
said Secretary Robert Johnson,
one of the negotiators.

As an indication of the
difficulty, Mr Frank Carlucci,
the Deputy Secretary de-
signed to lead the negotia-
tions, demanded more money for the mission
in the budget for a com-
mittee on Wednesday, say-
ing the amount of a
grant had been cut off.

Another important
point is the fact that
the US Treasury is still no
closer to the table
than it was a year ago.
The negotiations have
been a series of dead-
end streets. The US
has refused to agree to
any of the proposals
put forward by the
European countries.
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The more you put down, the less you pay out.

Buy a new Fiesta,* Escort or Orion between October 15 and December 15
and choose how you pay. 20% deposit (9.5% APR) or 50% deposit (4.8% APR).

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of 20% in which case the interest rate is 4.9% (APR 9.5%). Or you can make a higher deposit, 50% or more, in which case the interest rate is lower, 2.5% (APR 4.8%).

Furthermore, your deposit can be in the form of cash, or a trade-in or a combination of both. So your present car can help you pay for your new one.

To decide which alternative might suit you

best, study the examples below. We've made the figures as clear as possible!

Or, better still, pay a visit to your Ford dealer and he'll explain in detail.

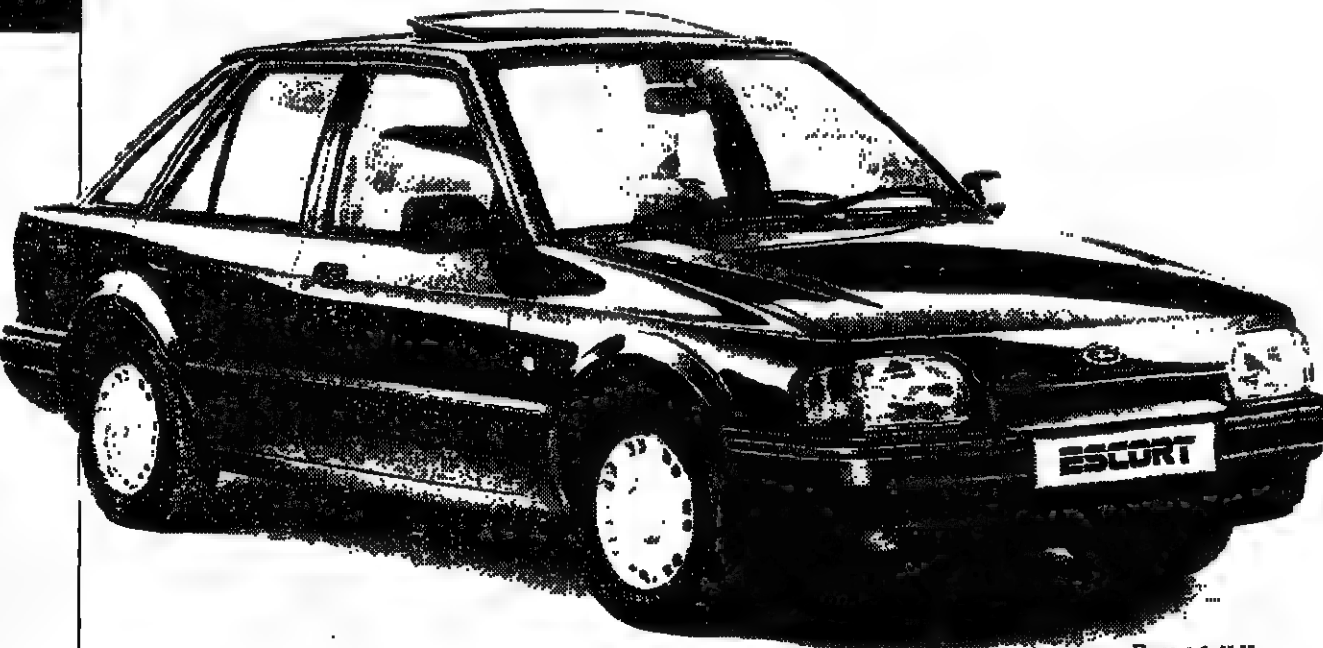
These finance plans are scheduled to run until December 15. But don't leave your decision too long. Due to demand some of the models on offer could be in short supply.



Fiesta 1.4 Ghia

FIESTA*	950 POPULAR	1.4 GHIA	XR2	1.6L DIESEL
Cash price† (inc. delivery)	£4853.14	£7407.86	£7499.78	£6863.74
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£970.63	£1481.57	£1499.96	£1372.75
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£123.70	£188.82	£191.16	£174.95
Charge for Credit	£570.69	£871.23	£881.94	£807.21
Total Credit Price	£5423.53	£8279.09	£8381.72	£7670.95
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£2426.57	£3703.93	£3749.89	£3431.87
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£72.46	£110.60	£111.98	£102.48
Charge for Credit	£161.99	£277.67	£281.39	£257.41
Total Credit Price	£5035.13	£7685.53	£7781.17	£7121.15

ESCORT	1.3L 3-door	1.4LX	1.6GL DIESEL	XR3i with anti-lock brakes
Cash price† (inc. delivery)	£6854.85	£7648.50	£8373.90	£9288.14
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1370.97	£1529.70	£1674.78	£1857.63
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£174.72	£194.95	£213.44	£236.74
Charge for Credit	£806.04	£899.40	£984.72	£1092.13
Total Credit Price	£7660.89	£8547.90	£9358.62	£10380.27
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£3427.43	£3824.25	£4186.95	£4644.07
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£102.35	£114.20	£125.03	£138.68
Charge for Credit	£257.18	£286.95	£314.13	£348.41
Total Credit Price	£7112.03	£7935.45	£8688.03	£9636.55



Escort 1.4LX



Orion 1.6 Ghia

ORION	1.3L	1.4LX	1.6GL DIESEL	1.6 GHIA
Cash price† (inc. delivery)	£7234.80	£7740.42	£8612.27	£9310.82
9.5% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 20%)	£1446.96	£1548.08	£1722.45	£1862.16
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£184.41	£197.29	£219.52	£237.32
Charge for Credit	£850.92	£910.10	£1012.90	£1094.86
Total Credit Price	£8085.72	£8650.52	£9625.17	£10405.68
4.8% APR				
Initial Payment (Minimum 50%)	£3617.40	£3870.21	£4306.14	£4655.41
36 Monthly Payments of (Starting 1 month after contract)	£108.02	£115.57	£128.59	£139.02
Charge for Credit	£271.32	£290.31	£323.11	£349.31
Total Credit Price	£7506.12	£8030.73	£8935.38	£9660.13

Except Fiesta Bonus. The above Low Rate Finance Plan is subject to credit approval and applies to Fiesta, Escort and Orion cars and estate cars registered between October 15th and December 15th 1987 and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers and underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Please note various factory fitted options are available at extra cost. †Maximum retail price as at October 15th 1987 including delivery.



THE TIMES DIARY

Little aid for the law

The new Lord Chancellor will have his work cut out if the new legal aid bill goes through as it stands. Although the bill is not due to be published for three weeks, copies have been released to interested parties for comment and some lawyers are far from happy with the proposed degree of government control. The new Legal Aid Board, which will take over the running of the £400 million-a-year scheme currently operated by the Law Society, will come under even closer Whitehall scrutiny than had been feared. Eligibility, levels of contributions and the key issue of contracting out the work to be done by advice agencies and bureaux will come under Lord Mackay's close control or approval. And to add insult to injury, legal profession representatives are to be a distinctly small number on the board.

Built to last

Although SDP founding father and pro-mergerite Bill Rodgers is bowing out of full-time party politics, his influence on his former colleagues will remain crucial. Although he is to become director-general of the Royal Institute of British Architects he confirmed yesterday that he will keep his seat on the SDP's ruling body, the national committee, because of the constitutional complication of replacing him. He says he does not plan to take an active part at the monthly sessions, but that may prove difficult. The committee, which at the start of the merger backed the then leader, David Owen, and has since swung erratically, is now exactly split on the issue. The vote at the last count was 16-16. Rodgers says he will stay until merger negotiations are concluded. If they prove inconclusive he will resign rather than wait until next summer's national council elections. No doubting his political purpose, then.

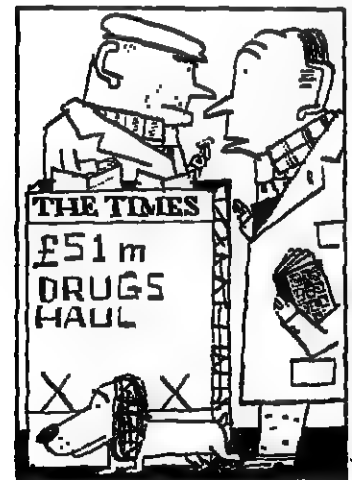
Do unto thyself

On Wednesday morning consumer affairs minister Francis Maude launched the DTI's *Think! Safety!* First campaign, warning people of dangers in the home. Apparently 5,500 people die after domestic accidents — as many as on the roads — and three million receive medical treatment. Maude had to rush from the launch to wind up the British Airways-BCA debate in the House. Forgetting his message, he charged down the stairs, slipped, and twisted his ankle.

Tetherness

Every traffic cop in South Wales is to attend rodeo lessons. Police at the forces' Bridgend HQ have decided to hold training courses on horse control after a recent increase in road and motorway accidents involving runaways from horse boxes. Untrained, the police admit, even the bravest constable can be covered by a stampeding filly. "But there are at present no plans to issue ten gallon hats and lassoes," they add.

BARRY FANTONI



"They were probably trying to raise money to buy a Van Gogh."

Beaten track

Soviet citizens in Dushanbe, south of Tashkent, angered by the noise and danger from low-flying aircraft and frustrated by their failure to get the local airport closed, have declared war, according to a recent report in *Izvestiya*. A plank with long nails has been left on the runway, where lights are frequently smashed and the control tower has been stoned. In desperation Aeroflot has approached a local mullah and asked him to reason with the people.

No go-gos

Lady Porter's blue-rinsed Westminster Council must be doing something wrong. Across the river, Labour-run Southwark is citing Westminster as the model for its anti-stripper policy. The council has infuriated strip artists, male and female, by adding a caveat to the music and dance licences it issues to local pubs that will prevent their hiring strippers and go-go dancers. As demonstrations began outside *The Frog and Nightingale* yesterday — the band will cost the dancers and drag queens their £50 a gig — Southwark was paying tribute to Lady P for introducing the same regulation a year ago.

PHS

Conor Cruise O'Brien questions the validity of the Hillsborough agreement in the face of Ulster's rising tide of violence



Ireland's time bomb

The second anniversary of the Anglo-Irish Agreement falls on Sunday, one week after the massacre at Enniskillen. In the minds of Ulster Protestants those events are connected; as separate but related aspects of their besieged and friendless condition. They saw the agreement, from the beginning, as a stage in the direction of selling them down the river to Dublin. They also saw it as an act of appeasement in the derogatory sense: a concession extorted by violence and threats. The concession was made at the expense of the main target of that violence: the Ulster Protestant community.

As against that way of looking at things, its sponsors argued that the agreement was designed to increase security and reduce violence; a move to remedy the alienation of the minority community. As that alienation decreased, support for the security forces would increase proportionately; support for the IRA would decline, and so also the level of violence.

Unfortunately the argument has not worn well. Violence, which had been declining before November 1985, has increased since. 1986 was worse than 1985. The figures for the first nine months of 1987 were worse than those for all of 1986. And that was before Enniskillen.

The massacre at Enniskillen was not an act of "mindless violence"; it was calculated, with a definite political end in view. The end was not the destruction of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, though there has been some speculation to that effect. The present godfathers of the IRA are politically sophisticated, in their own ghastly way, and they know that their action, through its shock effect in the Republic, is likely to preserve the agreement.

Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, had been trying to wriggle out of ratifying extradition, but Enniskillen has made that harder for him. The IRA knows that the vote on extradition will have no significant effect on security. Nor is it really hostile to the Anglo-Irish Agreement. It denounces the agreement indeed, from time to time, but it likes the effect on the Protestants, as Gerry Adams, leader of Provisional Sinn Féin, made clear, soon after the agreement was reached.

For the IRA, the great merit of

the agreement is that it infuriates the Protestants, whose anger can be exploited for the further, perhaps terminal, destabilization of the province. And the atrocity at Enniskillen was timed and placed to get maximum results, in terms of Protestant anger.

By striking on Remembrance Sunday the Provos managed not only to kill Protestants but also to demonstrate, through the desecration of a sacred day, their contempt for the whole Protestant community and everything it holds dear.

The place was also well chosen. Fermanagh is a border county; one in which the IRA has been systematically engaged, over the last 15 years, in something resembling creeping genocide. The strategy has been to pick off outlying Protestant farmers and shopkeepers, as opportunity offers, and so cause a Protestant exodus. Many of the Protestants thus driven from their homes have taken refuge in Enniskillen, where about half the population is Protestant. So, from the IRA's point of view, the Protestants of Enniskillen were the right people to hit.

The Nazis used to speak of making regions, or countries, Judenrein: "Clean from Jews". The IRA has made parts of Fermanagh "Clean from Protestants". At Enniskillen the IRA signalled its intention to complete the job. The signal was the most savage act of cold-blooded provocation yet staged against the Protestant community.

The object of the IRA is to goad the Protestants into retaliation against the Roman Catholic community. That is not an irrational policy. Protestant attacks on Catholics allow the IRA to appear in its most advantageous role: that of defender of the Catholics. And the IRA knows that the Catholics, once under Protestant attack, will forget that the IRA provoked the Protestants into attacking in the first place. In each community the tribal memory is short, in relation to atrocities committed against the other.

But the main advantage, for the IRA, of goading Protestants into breaking the law, is that this will

draw Protestants into conflict with the security forces, and that if this conflict takes on major proportions it could lead to British withdrawal. If British forces are attacked by terrorist groups from both communities, a British government might well decide to get out and leave the two local sides to fight it out, as in Palestine, 39 years ago. And it has been the main object of the Provisional IRA, since its foundation, to secure British withdrawal. The IRA is now trying to get the Protestants to help in that direction. British withdrawal, in those circumstances, would be followed by civil war, and the IRA believes that could be turned to their advantage — in the Republic if not in the North.

I believe the IRA has been making some progress in that direction, and that it has been helped, not hindered, by the Anglo-Irish Agreement. The effect of the agreement in generating alienation among Protestants is far more obvious in Northern Ireland than in the Republic. As for "reconciling the two traditions", which Hillsborough was supposed to be all about, that is now a sick joke. I was in Belfast last Sunday and every-

body I met told me that inter-communal relations are considerably worse now than before Hillsborough — bad as they were then. And my conversations took place early on Sunday afternoon, before the details of the Enniskillen bomb were widely known.

The Anglo-Irish Agreement has had some benign effects on relations between Dublin and London, and it also makes good public relations for Britain in the United States. All that is fine, but rather marginal. In Northern Ireland the effects have been, and continue to be, predominantly negative. In a pamphlet, published on Tuesday, Sir Charles Carter, one of the most judicious authorities on Northern Ireland, argues that the Anglo-Irish Agreement "has alienated the majority without reconciling the minority." And that is exactly how it is. The British government and public should face up to it.

I believe that unless the British government can soon convince

'The IRA wants to goad the Protestants into retaliation, drawing them into conflict with the security forces and bringing about British withdrawal'

The financial crash, INF and Gorbachov's peaceful image: Richard Owen reports on the sharp differences in allied reaction

New currents in the Nato drift

did not expect," one American said, "is that Europe would not only stand on its own feet, but turn against us."

George Ball, former US ambassador to the United Nations, who, like Healey, was present at the creation of the Marshall Plan and the postwar institutions, puts it differently: the Cold War assumptions which produced Nato have crumbled away. The US is left playing an outdated role as self-appointed world policeman, while Europe gropes towards unification and agonizes over whether to keep nuclear weapons to maintain deterrence in the new age, and whether to accept Reagan's assurances of "unshakable commitment" to European defence.

These new tensions are fuelled by the worldwide collapse of share prices and pressure on the dollar. US officials are irritated by what they see as self-righteous European demands for action to tackle the US budget deficit "as if it was the root of all evil", as one US academic put it. American officials detect a new wave of anti-Americanism in Europe, while many Americans regard the Europeans as soft on terrorism, susceptible to Soviet blandishments and hypocritical in demanding higher standards of Washington than of themselves.

Many of these tensions amount to family squabbles within an alliance which still remains intact. Western Europe is not in danger of becoming pro-Soviet, however

much sympathy there may be for Gorbachov; nor is there a real danger of European neutralisation, even in West Germany, which has a special relationship with the East. But European leaders are looking ahead to a world in which the US puts Europe low on its list of priorities.

How long, some ask, before US budget cuts lead to troop withdrawals from Europe? Some add the heretical thought that this would not be the end of the world. Why not add a defence dimension to the EEC, or at least develop a European strategy within Nato?

The three major meetings which fall in December — the EEC Copenhagen summit, the Reagan-Gorbachov meeting in Washington and the Brussels Nato Council — will show whether either the Europeans or the Americans have a clear idea of the shape of post-INF defence. According to senior Nato officials, one option for land-based cruise and Pershing missiles to be replaced by air-launched nuclear missiles and bombs as "compensatory measures". On the other hand, the same European public opinion which supports INF would probably greet this with dismay, and if Moscow also took "compensatory measures" we could be back to square one.

The alternative is for Europe to build up conventional weapons. But, as George Ball remarked, this is not only costly but also implies a return to the risk of conventional

war on European territory, a threat which Europeans believe has been kept at bay by 40 years of the nuclear balance. Similarly, the Europeans are disturbed by Star Wars (an implied X-ray ball fully shared), with its implied yearning for a return to pre-nuclear innocence.

The Europeans, in other words, have a contradictory view of nuclear disarmament, regarding it as both a boon and a curse. If the superpowers now go on to agree a 50 per cent reduction in strategic weapons by mid-1988 this, in turn, could affect Britain's Trident nuclear deterrent, since the warheads will be supplied by Washington from a reduced stockpile.

The survivors of the Marshall Plan complain — no doubt overlooking their own occasional blunders and failures of vision — that the new generation lacks leadership. What is needed, is genuine political and economic unity in the EEC to provide coherent European policies (although Britain's insistence on playing a world role as well as a European one causes problems); a Western summit to sort out the troubled financial scene and fears of protectionism (engendered on the European side by the US Trade Bill now passing through Congress); and — a suggestion made by American liberals as well as Europeans — agreement by Washington to act more through international agencies such as the UN.

There are signs of hope. Nato has many underlying strengths, including its ability to discuss changing realities in public and question basic assumptions, which the communist world cannot. EEC integration should (if the target is met) be hastened by the planned abolition of internal barriers in 1992. Equally, Gorbachov's greater willingness to support and use the United Nations could lead Washington to take a similar direction. It remains to be seen, however, whether the West can meet the challenge of the "old evils" and respond to Gorbachov in a coherent way.

John Rae

Putting the case for the core

The day after the battle of Friedland in 1807, his enemy fleeing eastward to Russia, his control of continental Europe at last assured, Napoleon dictated a letter to Paris detailing his plans for the education of girls. In education, as in military strategy, he knew exactly what he wanted. He firmly believed, like the 18th century philosopher, that the right sort of education will produce the right sort of citizens. The French revolutionaries, too, made educational schemes a high priority. The more extreme Jacobins were convinced that by prescribing the curriculum they could ensure the triumph of republican virtue.

To a greater or lesser extent, most societies have believed that the state should dictate what is taught in schools because only the state knows what sort of citizens it requires. The history of education in Russia, from Peter the Great to the present day, is one obvious example. But it is not a belief that has appealed to the British. Not this, until now.

For the first time, a British government is openly espousing the idea that there is a direct connection between the curriculum and the health — in our case the economic health — of society. Just as Robespierre assured the Convention in 1793 that national education was necessary to bring about "a complete regeneration" of France, so Kenneth Baker will be assuring Parliament that a national curriculum is necessary to bring about the economic regeneration of Britain.

The British have for so long regarded such a utilitarian view of education as alien that it is difficult at first to understand how the national curriculum has become the centrepiece of Mr Baker's policy. The difficulty is increased because the national curriculum is being packaged with Thatcherite policies that originated in the Tory think-tank, the Centre for Policy Studies.

So two separate revolutions are occurring simultaneously. One is the Thatcherite revolution, introducing a number of measures intended to make education more responsive to parents' wishes. The other is the Napoleonic revolution which intends to make education more responsive to the needs of the state.

This second and more fundamental revolution is neither Thatcherite nor Tory in its origins. It marks the final triumph of a long campaign by the Department of Education and Science. In 1977 the Department persuaded the prime minister, James Callaghan, to include in his now famous speech on education at Ruskin College a reference to the need for a basic core curriculum. The Department's arguments would have been immediately understood by Napoleon or Peter the Great. If Britain was to be a successful nation in its post-imperial phase, priority had to be given to industrial objectives, education, like other aspects of social policy, would have to be geared to industrial needs; only by central control of the curriculum could this be achieved.

however... Henry Stanhope

Strong-arm strategy

"Good morning, Minister — and welcome to Over Wallop camp. I am the commanding officer and I would like to introduce Christopher Madsen-Hatter, my Number Two, and Regimental Sergeant-Major Hardknutt. May I say how delighted we are that you have decided to visit the 1st Royal Wimpshires."

"Over here you can see a list of our battle honours — Cromwell's Irish campaign, the Highland Settlements, the Gordon Riots, the General Strike... I am sure you will agree at the end of this briefing, sir, that we have absolutely nothing to hide — and indeed a great deal to be proud of. Isn't that so Sergeant-Major?"

"Sir, you see minister, where the, ah, gentlemen of the press have got things a little bit wrong is in interpreting what they have seen here as simple 'bullying'. In fact nothing could be further from the truth. It is all an essential part of Nato training. Isn't that so, Christopher?"

"Absolutely, Colonel."

"Good. First slide please, Sergeant-Major... Now, you see, sir, what we have here is a photograph of a young man whose head is being held under water in the ablutions by his chums. What a visitor from Mars might describe as a pretty violent scene, eh? It all starts to make sense, however, when you appreciate that the young lad in question is a Russian."

"Well, no, I will concede that he's not actually a Russian. In fact he's Private Entwistle from C Company. But he was playing the part of Boris as part of our Field Army Interrogation Training, otherwise known as Faint — a term with which you might soon become familiar here."

"I can assure you that if there is one thing a Russki doesn't like it's being manhandled in the ablutions. It reminds him of the British public school system — upper middle-class privilege and that sort of thing. Subject a Russian to that and he'll soon tell you anything you want to know — his army number, the name of his CO, what he thinks of Mrs Gorbachov, his mother's personal recipe for

In 1977, no political party was prepared to act upon the Department's uncomfortable but impeccable logic. In the great debate inspired by Callaghan's speech, the participants dissociated themselves from the idea of a national curriculum. "The debate showed a surprising amount of agreement between Mrs [Shirley] Williams and her opposition shadow, Mr Norman St John-Stevas." *The Times* reported on February 3, 1977. "Both rejected the idea of a common core curriculum imposed on schools by central government."

The Department bided its time, confident that a political consensus in favour of a national curriculum would emerge. The process has taken ten years. Delusions of grandeur, folk memories of absolutist ogres from Louis XIV to Adolf Hitler, dishonest arguments about academic freedom and sheer inertia in the teaching profession all conspired to postpone a consensus. Even now the parliamentary opposition is in two minds whether to support the idea of a national curriculum, while the teachers oscillate between hysterical warnings about Nazi-style education and demands that their own pet subject should be rammed down the throats of all children.

The critics of the national curriculum have no sense of history. They do not understand what is happening or why. They think the national curriculum was invented by right-wing ideologues as a device for clipping the wings of trendy teachers who teach peace studies instead of history. They seem unable to grasp that what is at issue is not whether history or peace studies should be on the curriculum, but whether the Napoleonic theory of education is correct. Can you, by prescribing what is taught in schools, produce the sort of citizen, and hence the sort of society, you desire? And even if that is true as a general proposition, will it work when your goal is not republican virtue or military supremacy but economic and industrial revival?

These are the questions that should be debated, but the chances are that they will not be. The parliamentary opposition will concentrate on the need for more resources to make the national curriculum work and the teachers will continue to pursue red herrings in the form of individual subjects.

This will suit the Department very well. It would much rather argue about the detail than the principle. I do not think the Department should get off so lightly. There is evidence, both historical and contemporary, that control of the curriculum can contribute towards economic success and the Department should be required to produce it. A good policy should not be denied its real justification just because its opponents are so determined to bark up the wrong tree.

The author, director of the Laura Ashley Foundation, was formerly headmaster of Westminster School.

MOOD

ENGLAND



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MOOD BEGINS TO CHANGE

The encouraging thing about yesterday's US trade figures was less the figures themselves than the reaction of the markets. The bounce in the dollar and the strong recovery in share prices, especially in London, show that for the time being the markets are in a mood to look on the brighter side given half a chance. The recent all-pervading pessimism has not disappeared, but at least investors are not impervious to better news.

The figures show an underlying improvement in the US trade position, though there are likely to be further setbacks before the trade deficit falls decisively. A trade deficit of \$14.08 billion in September is both better than expected and better than the \$15.68 billion in August. It may also be better than it looks. Seasonal factors tend to be adverse during the summer months. A slower build-up of oil imports, as traders get used to their worries about the Gulf, accounts for some of the better showing. This still leaves an improvement in the non-oil deficit of about \$1 billion; not a bad advertisement for the policies which governments were trying to pursue before the crash.

The fall in the dollar, which was arrested more or less by the Louvre accord on exchange rate stability in February, was beginning to yield the improvements in competitiveness which would eventually bring down the deficit. But since then the US currency has fallen much further. The immediate effect of this will be to make imports dearer — imposing a new adverse movement in the deficit before increased competitiveness begins to yield another improvement.

But, if a lower dollar is beginning to effect some improvement in the US trade account, the markets are still waiting for delivery on the second half of the Louvre accord. As well as pledging themselves to keep exchange rates roughly stable the members of the Group of Seven industrial nations promised to make the necessary policy adjustments to achieve that.

Spurred by the crash in share prices, progress towards adjustment now looks nearer than it has for some time.

The likelihood is that the US Administration and Congress will come to an agreement on reducing the US budget deficit. At the same time there are hints by the countries in trade surplus — Federal Germany and Japan — that they will expand so as to reinforce the effect of America's deficit reduction. It is essential that they do, because the danger of world recession looms much larger after the crash. The need for expansionary action, which the low-inflation countries are best placed to take, is more pressing than it was during the year or more of previous diplomatic exchanges on this issue. This must be the subject of the G7 meeting which is expected to follow any agreement on the US deficit.

Events since "Black Monday" do not encourage great confidence in a meeting of minds. Since the crash finance ministers and central bankers around the world have continually stressed the importance of economic co-operation and the extent to which everyone believes in the same tablets of scripture. But, to judge by their actions rather than their words, financial leaders have shown every sort of political frailty. Last week, West German action to bring down interest rates was completely neutered by an incautious phrase from the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, suggesting that the US would be prepared to see a lower dollar rather than risk US recession. If ministers cannot even get the words right, can we rely on them for the action?

The question is most pertinent in the US. No-one gains from a US recession, least of all an Administration approaching an election. But the best hope of avoiding the worst consequences from the stock market crash lies in co-ordinated action. This is likely in the end to prove a better form of electioneering than further neglect of the dollar.

A SEMBLANCE OF UNITY

Little should be expected from summits of any kind. That of the Arab League, which ended in Jordan on Wednesday, produced less than had been hoped for when it was first mooted earlier in the autumn, but more than was expected when it began.

The Americans and the West Europeans had wanted a strong call for sanctions against Iran. It can hardly be said that they got it. If they had, it would have strengthened their hand with the Russians in their attempts to institute a United Nations arms embargo against Tehran, the next step now that the resolution calling for a cease-fire in the Gulf has come to nothing. Instead, the final summit communiqué from Amman condemned Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory, and supported the existing UN resolution on the war but stopped short of a call for sanctions.

Even so, the communiqué, relatively mild as it was, confounded the general view immediately preceding the summit that the absence of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the intransigent mood of Syria would be enough to scupper any suggestion of a united Arab position — whatever that unity is worth. At the end, only Libya departed from the consensus, which also included a decision to allow individual states to re-establish diplomatic relations with Egypt.

The prospect of an Iranian victory in the Gulf War, and the consequent threat of Iran's fundamentalist revolution sweeping the Arab world, might appear to have made it easy for Arab governments to make common cause against Iran. But not so. South Yemen, which refines Iranian oil in Aden, has been ambivalent towards Iran, as has Algeria. In the Gulf, too, self-interest has dictated differences in emphasis. Kuwait, closest to the battlefield, is in favour of a strong line; Dubai, where Iranian ships queue to be serviced in the dry docks and a cross-Gulf black market flourishes, takes a softer attitude.

Saudi Arabia, the moving spirit of the Arab world, belongs to the hardliners and might

have been expected to marshal the Gulf States into line. But the alignment of Damascus with Tehran, stemming from Syria's feud with Iraq, was an obstacle on a different scale.

Syrian opposition to Iraq goes back to the time of the assumption of power by President Assad in 1970, following which both his predecessor and various Syrian luminaries of the Baath socialist movement took up residence in Baghdad. Personal animosity to President Saddam Hussein has intensified the rift over the years. But in seeking Syrian agreement to a consensus view on the Gulf war, the Saudis and the Jordanians had a useful card to play: Syria's economic bankruptcy.

As more of a potential combatant than most other Arab states in the struggle with Israel, Syria receives large amounts of economic assistance from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf under an Arab League agreement which runs out next year. Part of the bargaining in Amman this week will almost certainly have involved the threat of withdrawing that aid, or increasing it in the event of Syrian compliance. Kuwait, in particular, which reduced its payments to Damascus several years ago, may now be prepared to pay more.

The result has been President Assad's willingness to add his name to the summit's mild condemnation of Iran but not to tolerate a more decisive Arab stand. His intention entirely to break his relationship with Iran remains in doubt, but this consideration was extraneous to the purpose of the summit for which the semblance of unity rather than the reality was the vital element.

From the point of view of the pro-Western moderate Arab states, the summit communiqué represents a respectable compromise, signalling a minor triumph for King Hussein and leaving Libya ever more isolated on the fringes of the Arab world. For the international search for a diplomatic solution to the Gulf War, this week's events in Amman signify very little.

ENGLAND HOOLIGANS AWAY

England's soccer team qualified on Wednesday for the European championships in West Germany next June. This raises a question vital both to the policemen and the peaceful *Bürger* of the Federal Republic: have England's soccer hooligans qualified too?

Since the Heysel stadium tragedy in May, 1985, which involved the fans of an English club (Liverpool), all English clubs were banned from taking part in European competitions indefinitely. This produced an anomaly. A team such as Norwich, whose fans are generally peaceful, won a domestic cup competition and therefore qualified for a European cup winners' competition in 1985-86 — but, because of the post-Heysel ban, could not take part.

The ban did not apply, however, to the English national team. Yet some of the English fans' most disgraceful actions have been perpetrated in its name. In the last European championships for which England qualified (Italy, 1980), police fired tear gas into the English fans in Turin when they attacked those of Belgium.

Soccer hooliganism is, in one respect, like terrorism. Authority denounces it, promises to punish the guilty, says it will never compromise with it. But it often shrinks from the stern measures which would defeat it. In the case of soccer hooliganism, the measures often do not have to be all that stern. The way to ensure that as few English hooligans as possible run amok in West Germany next year is to make it as inconvenient as possible for them to get tickets for the matches. They should have to book well in advance.

A few of the more dedicated ones would still make the trip on the off-chance of getting into the ground on the day. If unable to get in, they would roam around pillaging, say, Düsseldorf.

But most would stay in England, where at least their activities would do no more to ruin the country's reputation in the eyes of civilized Europe. Having to book in advance reduces the number of potential hooligans who might decide during the championships, at relatively short notice, to board ferries across the channel and the North Sea for the purpose of pursuing their brutal pleasures in West Germany.

But authority has other concerns — "authority", in this case, being soccer's officialdom in both England and West Germany. The English Football Association has long been agitating for the post-Heysel ban on English clubs to be lifted early. In September, when "only" 30 Britons were arrested at a West Germany v. England friendly match in Düsseldorf, the English FA thought this was a sign of better behaviour and grounds for hope that the ban would end early.

As for West German soccer officialdom, it intends next year to sell tickets to English fans on the day. This is because it wants to make as much money from the championships as possible — seemingly regardless of the cost to the West German taxpayer, who pays for the police; to innocent bystanders; to the owners of bars and shop windows, and to Anglo-German relations.

At Heysel, 39 people were killed. However inadequate the Belgian crowd arrangements were, the blame lay with the English fans. However rough the justice to which English clubs were subjected after Heysel, English hooligans must learn that punishment will not be mitigated. The hooliganism of certain Englishmen abroad continues to shame this country. The West German soccer authorities should not sell tickets next year to English fans on the day of matches, and the English FA should do nothing to encourage them to do so.

BMA view on doctors with Aids

From the Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association

Sir, As your leader, "Confidential Aids" (November 11), points out, doctors are entitled to patients' rights to confidentiality of condition and treatment when they themselves are patients.

Like other patients, once a doctor is diagnosed as being HIV positive counselling and advice about the virus will be given. The individual will then learn exactly how to modify his or her professional lifestyle so that patients can be safeguarded. The advice will come from other doctors who will have expert knowledge about Aids and its transmission.

Before there was a cure for syphilis, another sexually transmitted disease, there were doctors who were victims. We knew how that disease was transmitted and could ensure that patients were not put at risk. Today we know how the Aids virus is transmitted.

The BMA believes that there may be cases where doctors who have the virus should not continue in their particular specialty, and that retraining, replacement or compensation to leave the NHS may be appropriate: for instance, where there is a danger of "blood-to-blood" contact with patients.

There are other forms of medical practice where this kind of contact does not occur and where the doctors can take adequate precautions to ensure that it does not occur. For them it will be perfectly possible to continue to treat patients.

Sir Gerard Vaughan, whose fears are quoted in your leader, would not be in any sort of danger from having his wound dressed by a doctor, or a nurse or dentist for that matter, who was HIV positive unless the doctor had a cut that could bleed into the wound.

Doctors, like others who become sufferers of this disease, know that they must seek advice. Which hints which destroy the ethic of confidentiality do great harm. They stop people coming forward for the treatment they so urgently need and the risks of the disease spreading will be magnified. Doctors know full well what their moral obligations are to their patients and what they must do if there is any likelihood of patients being put at risk.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MARKS,
Chairman of Council,
British Medical Association,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square, W.C1,
November 11.

Last hours of a hunted buck

From Major A. J. Soper (ret'd)

Sir, Each year during the month of October the fallow deer in the New Forest begin their rutting, being allowed to continue this mating process in peace by the cessation of hunting by the New Forest Buckhounds for that calendar month.

The selection of one calendar month, on the face of it, appears to be an administrative convenience as the rut normally continues into early November. Such was the case when the Buckhounds met at Fribham in the New Forest on November 2.

The animal selected was one of a herd engaged in the mating game. Like all the others involved in this annual ritual it was already rather tired as a result of the battles for supremacy.

The buck was pursued for some 4½ hours until it was finally stopped and killed, at which time, according to a witness, it was in a state of exhaustion. Some 3½

hours into the hunt the buck was seen to stumble and, in front of a number of witnesses, was whipped to its feet and hunted for a further hour.

The New Forest Foxhounds and the Buckhounds are being requested to make improvements to the distribution of meets to avoid over-hunting in certain localities, an issue I took up with the chairman of the Forestry Commission earlier this year. It is proposed to stop fox-hunting in October and to stop the practice of digging out foxes which have gone to ground; this is to prevent disturbance in occupied badger setts, although the badger will still have to suffer by having its sett "stopped" before fox-hunting.

Why, in this enlightened day and age, is such barbaric activity as happened on November 2 allowed to continue in the name of sport?

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR SOPER,
The Well House,
Abbots Well,
Fordingbridge, Hampshire.
November 3.

Health care cuts

From Mr Jack Lowe

Sir, I refer to the letter (November 5) from Mr P. C. Bentley and his colleagues who practise general surgery in this district. If anything, they underestimate the management problem facing this and every health authority.

Unlike a private business, we have no control over the demand for our services as we can neither emphasize those "products" which have a higher profit margin nor can we raise our prices. Our only freedom is to react to the daily order intake within our carefully planned but cash-limited resources. These resources are just not adequate to meet the rising expectation of health care from the public sector.

The proportion of the gross national product allotted to the health-care services is a matter for political decision and everyone involved in these services would like that proportion to be increased.

Health service general managers are in total agreement with our clinical colleagues that we could provide a better service if we had more resources. The difficulties besetting this and every other district have not suddenly been recognised; they have been predicted and reported and will continue until real additional money is found.

News libraries

From the Chairman of the National Association of News Libraries

Sir, May I correct one impression that your otherwise excellent article (Media and Marketing, November 4) gives on the development of newspaper libraries. David Nicholas does indeed see the "scissors" function of the librarian continuing, but he also sees the library providing on-line training and support to journalists; maintaining the reference inquiry service; doing extensive documentary research; marketing the electronic library outside the paper; managing the information flow within the paper.

Overall, new technology will generate exciting opportunities for newspaper librarians to enhance their service, and thus is being welcomed by them.

Yours sincerely,
PETER CHAPMAN (Chairman,
National Association of News Libraries),
The Northern Echo,
Priestgate,
Darlington, Co Durham.

Rate for the job

From Dr T. G. Palferman

Sir, I am a consultant physician whose main speciality is rheumatology. This past summer I elected to set aside a Saturday to carry out extra clinics.

The nature of my contract makes it highly unlikely that I would be eligible for any extra payment for these extra sessions. Accordingly, I negotiated an agreement whereby an equivalent sum would be paid to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

On the said Saturday I arrived in the hospital at 8.30 am, left just before 6 pm, took a 20-minute break and throughout the day saw patients who would routinely have had to wait several weeks for their appointments.

Two weeks ago I received a cheque payable to the ARC for £50. A little enterprise seems to come cheaply to the NHS.

Yours faithfully,
T. G. PALFERMAN,
Yeovil District Hospital,
Higher Kingston,
Yeovil, Somerset.

From Mr R. D. West
Sir, Dr Taylor (November 3) makes his point with humour but unfortunately not much accuracy. His fee was over and above his salary and presumably he had no overheads. On the other hand, the plumber's fee was gross income, out of which he had to pay both his salary and his overheads.

Yours faithfully,
R. D. WEST,
Broomleaf, Harewood Road,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr L. G. Jacobs
Sir, As I see it, Dr Taylor's real objection to his plumbing bill was that he saw no reason why he should be taken to the cleaners as well.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 13 1871

In an age turning from sail to steam in maritime defence HMS *Glatton* was intended for the defence of harbours and for attacking those of the enemy. Shaped like a flat spoon with a narrow superstructure aft enabling the turret gun to fire off either side of it, the vessel was described in the Guinness History of Sea Warfare as a "uniquely useless ship".

TRIAL TRIP OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP GLATTON.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

SHERNESS, Nov. 4. The trial trip, off Sheress, of the *Glatton*, took place on Tuesday, and nothing could have been more satisfactory...

As no account whatever of the *Glatton* has yet, I believe, appeared in your columns, and as she is the latest — not to say the best — product of engineering skill in its application to modern sea-war, your readers may not be sorry to have some description of her. Let them straightaway rid themselves, as far as possible, of all the familiar associations connected, with the word "ship", for although the *Glatton* is so called she is about as much like a ship, in any ordinary acceptance of the term, as she is like a camel or a Chinese door-latch. I heard endless ingenious attempts made yesterday and today to discover what she was like. One man suggested a dredging-machine, another an iron pier with a small gnomon (the "ship's" turret) stuck on to it, all kept out of the water by a half-sunk barge; a third thought she looked as though she had been somehow turned inside out, or else her working machinery all exposed to view, like some new-fangled French clock...

From all these strangely uncomplimentary similes — to say nothing of others still less flattering — your readers will perceive one thing, at any rate — that, whatever else she may be, she is no beauty. If, as seems probable, she at all represents the "coming race" of men-of-war, good-bye to the poetry of the profession and all the pretty picturesque images connected with the swelling sails, gracefully sloping decks, brilliantly burnished decks, neat rigging alive with cheering blue-jackets in large round collars...

Her turret revolves either by steam, in about 30 seconds, or by hand, in about three minutes. As both her two guns can rake directly at within a few inches of the base of the hurricane deck, as well, of course, as forwards and to both sides, the revolution is as perfect as it can be...

Another curious feature of the hurricane deck is the conning or pilot tower, about ten feet deep and 2½ ft. square — a decidedly tight fit for a stout man, especially as part of the room is taken up by a ladder, a small steering wheel, an indicator communicating with the turret, and three speaking tubes... The theory of the pilot-tower is that the captain, or whoever occupies it, should thence alone manage and fight the ship, there being at each side of him slanting holes, through which he could watch his opponent. But his look-out would be very imperfect, to say nothing of the fact that, though he is supposed to be sheltered, a shot striking outside the tower would probably kill or disable him...

Yours faithfully,
L. G. JACOBS,
18 Larkhill Road,
Cophorne,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 12: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Lancashire and Merseyside today.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness arrived at Manchester Road Station, Burnley, this morning in the Royal Train and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Lancashire (Mr Simon Townley).

The Queen drove to Burnley Mechanics and, having been received by the Mayor of Burnley (Councillor Mrs. E. H. Healey), Her Majesty toured the building and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited A. M. S. Industries plc (Managing Director, Mr M. V. Crabtree) and opened the new premises.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness then visited The Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn and were received by the Mayor of Blackburn (Councillor Mrs. E. H. Healey) and the Chairman of the Governors (Mr J. S. Singleton).

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh toured the Queen's Wing, where Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque, and attended a service of dedication conducted by the Bishop of Blackburn (the Right Reverend Stewart Cross).

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh afterwards travelled in the Royal Train to Edge Hill Station, Liverpool, and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Wing Commander Kenneth Stoddart).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness subsequently visited the Plessey Company plc, Edge Lane, Liverpool, and were received by the Chairman and Chief Executive (Sir John Clark).

The Queen opened the modernised Plessey Centre and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh later left Liverpool Airport in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Duchess of Grafton, the Lady Farnham, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Laurence, RN were in attendance.

The Princess Royal was represented by Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 12: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, accompanied by the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne.

The Princess Royal will visit Singapore, Thailand, Laos and Burma until November 24.

Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

To mark the Diamond Jubilee of the National Gardens Scheme, Her Majesty presented the County Organisers at St James's Palace this afternoon.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 12: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, visited the Duchy property in the Central District today.

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Exeter Cathedral Music Foundation Trust, this evening attended Sung Evensong followed by a reception for the Trust at Exeter Cathedral.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr David Landale, travelled in the Royal Train.

The Princess of Wales, President, Dr Barnardo's, this morning opened the Knolly School, Springfield Gardens, West Wickham, Bromley.

Her Royal Highness afterwards opened the Rudge Sports Hall at West Heath School, Sevenoaks, Kent.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Commander Richard Aylard RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were represented by the Earl of Airlie at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 12: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

YORK HOUSE
November 12: The Duke of Kent was represented by Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 12: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened the new International Headquarters of Rank Xerox limited at Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

Lady Mary Muntford was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness was represented by the Hon Angus Ogilvy at the Memorial Service for the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

A thanksgiving service for the life of Sir Jasper More will be held at St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, on Friday, November 20, at 3.00 pm.

Mr C.E.M. Edwards and Miss J.C. McFarland

The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs E.K. Edwards, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, and Judith, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs W.D.H. McFarland, of Brocton, Staffordshire.

Mr P.S. Farmiloe and Miss H.J. Selke

The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs Roger Farmiloe, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, and Helen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Max Selke, of Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.

Mr T.E.J. Hallett and Miss A.C. Norman

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Italian art, ancient and modern, to dazzle London

By Lynda Murdin

Italy and art being synonymous, an unprecedented number of cultural events has been arranged to coincide with next week's state visit by the Italian President, Romano Prodi, ancient and modern, are about to conquer British imaginations.

The Glass of the Caesars show at the British Museum promises to be "the exhibition of the century" and President Francesco Cossiga plans to present London with a new fountain in the West End, incorporating a statue by the sculptor Emilio Greco.

Other exhibitions and events have been organized around the country to strengthen cultural relations between Britain and Italy and underline their shared heritage.

The Queen and President Cossiga will officially open the Glass of the Caesars, the first major international display of Roman glass, at the British Museum on November 18. Some 50 priceless items, miraculously fragile survivors from the Roman Imperial Age (late first century BC to mid-sixth century AD), have been assembled from three leading collections - the British Museum, the Corning Museum of Glass in America and the Romanisch-Germanisches Museum in Cologne.

Italian museums have also lent exquisite glasses, never previously seen outside the country. The Portland Vase, one of the British Museum's most famous treasures, will be viewed for the first time alongside the Blue Vase from Pompeii, the only comparable remaining cameo-vessel.

The exhibition, open to the public from Friday until March 6, is presented by Olivetti, one of several Italian companies sponsoring arts events linked to the state visit.

The Association of Italian Banks has financed the Italian Fountain - costing around £200,000 - which, at the suggestion of the former Italian Ambassador, Signor Bruno Bontal, will enhance Carlos Place in Mayfair.

Other events include an exhibition on the work of Italian architect Aldo Rossi, to be opened by President Cossiga in York and later transferred to the Royal Institute of British Architects in London.

No celebration of contemporary Italian art would be complete without reference to the sculptor Giacomo Manzù, whose work includes the great bronze doors at St Peter's, Rome. A retrospective exhibition has been mounted by the Italian Embassy and the Galleria d'Arte Moderna in Rome and will first be seen in



The first-century portrait bust of Augustus, which will go on show at the British Museum.

Edinburgh before moving to Liverpool and Oxford.

Various scholarly publications have been commissioned to accompany these events, involving British experts so as to underline the theme of shared heritage.

The Italian Embassy's minister-counsellor, Signor Umberto Vattani, who has coordinated this wealth of artistic activity, explained: "We wanted an unprecedented number of cultural events to accompany this state visit so that we can share our common interests."

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N. Coburn and Miss D. Lyons
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Mr G.M. Coburn, of Thames Ditton, Surrey, and Miss Annabel Lyons, of Portlough, Dublin, daughter of Dr and Mrs Alec Lyons, of Dunbarton House, Gifford, Co. Down.

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OBITUARY

MR RALPH VERNON-HUNT

Master salesman of the best-seller

Mr Ralph Vernon-Hunt, who died on November 10, at the age of 64, was a man who lived and breathed books.

As sales director of Pan Books from 1947 until 1962 he was the personification of the paperback revolution in the post-war boom in that lucrative industry. He had an unfailing eye for a book, and, once convinced of its potential, spared no effort in its promotion. He more than anyone, stood for the marketing of the best-seller, and in this demanding business he was considered to be without equal.

He had enormous successes just after the war with *The Damocles*, *Enemy Coast Ahead*, and the steamy *Peyton Place*. But even these were surpassed by Fleming's *James Bond* novels and the subsequent (and also best-selling) works of Leslie Thomas, Dick Francis and James Herriot. Vernon-Hunt himself (at his own instigation, it is believed) was the first visual interpretation of Mr Bond, when his face appeared on the front cover of the first of the Fleming yarns.

Ralph Holmes Vernon-Hunt was born on May 23, 1923, and was educated at Malvern College. During the war, he served as a light-

lieutenant in the Royal Air Force, flying bombers, and was awarded a DFC.

Immediately after the war he took a job as a bookseller with Hudson's bookshop in Birmingham, which gave him a solid grounding in the business and where his flair as a salesman took wings.

His uncle, Alan Bott, founded Pan Books in 1947, and in that year the nephew joined the company as sales director, and there he remained for the next fifteen years. The post-war shortage of newsprint, as well as printing difficulties, were problems which Vernon-Hunt circumvented by having the company's books published in Paris. He then had the finished articles shipped down the Seine and across the Channel on a boat flying the Pan house-flag.

His driving personality together with a charismatic and buccaneering style of salesmanship made the name of Pan books famous all over the world, and the company's sales ran into many millions.

He left Pan in 1962 and moved to the fledgling publishers Paul Hamlyn, again as sales director. During his next six years there the company enjoyed a meteoric rise in sales.

Vernon-Hunt's forcefulness and dynamism were infectious; he inspired confidence, loyalty and trust in colleagues and customers. His salesmanship was of a shrewd and old-fashioned type.

He left Hamlyn in 1969, to return to Pan, this time as managing director. But the book trade was now a different animal with mergers merging into yet grander mergers at an alarming rate, and the solitary best-seller a thing of the past. Vernon-Hunt never again held quite the same sway as he had in the earlier days of glory.

In 1980 he became deputy chairman of Pan, but retired two years later as his health deteriorated. Fortunately, his keen perception for quality was never impaired, and he was able to continue his critical proof-reading of manuscripts and books until the end.

Ralph Vernon-Hunt was a man who held his opinions strongly and they were always exuberantly expressed. He had a gift for story-telling in a variety of accents. He combined a rigorous attitude towards company expenditure with great personal generosity.

His wife, Elizabeth, whom he married in 1946, survives him with their four sons and two daughters.

DR J. P. T. BURY

Dr J. P. T. Bury, respected historian of modern France, died on November 10, at the age of 79. He was a Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and was a university lecturer in modern history from 1937.

John Patrick Tuer Bury was born at Trumpington, near Cambridge, on July 30, 1908, the only son of Dr R. G. Bury, the Platonist scholar, and nephew of A. B. Bury, the great Classical historian.

He entered Corpus in 1927 from Marlborough, and read history. He was elected into a Fellowship in 1933, and served in several capacities: Director of Studies in History, Dean of College, Librarian, Steward of Estates, Warden of the College's post-graduate hall, Leckhampton House, and, not least, historian of the college.

He wrote two short accounts - one in 1949 for distribution to freshmen and the other in Volume III of the *Victoria County History of Cambridgeshire* (1959) - and a major history of the college from 1827 to its sixtieth anniversary in 1952. A volume of selections from the unpublished

Cambridge Diary (1832-1842) of Joseph Romilly appeared in 1967.

But his major work was in the field of modern French history. Towering above it all is his monumental biography of the charismatic republican statesman, Léon Gambetta. The first volume, *Gambetta and the National Defence*, appeared in 1936.

The war and other labours imposed long delay before the second and third volumes, *Gambetta and the Making of the Third Republic* (1973) and *Gambetta: The Final Years* (1982). This enduring contribution to the history of the Third Republic is distinguished by its judicious and sensitive treatment of the subject, scrupulous scholarship, and elegance of style.

Other books include *France 1914-1940*, first published in 1949, and frequently re-edited; *Napoleon III and the Second Empire* (1967); and his most recent, *Thiers, 1797-1877: A Political Life* (1986). He was also the editor of Volume X of the *New Cambridge Modern History* (1967) and of the *Historical Journal*.

MAJOR-GENERAL R. S. MARSHALL

Major-General R. S. Marshall, CB, OBE, MC, MM, who died on Remembrance Day, at the age of 70, was a distinguished Gunner, who enlisted in the Territorials as a private soldier and rose to high rank in the Royal Artillery.

Marshall had a full war, seeing active service from beginning to end, and is among the very few who won both the Military Medal and the Military Cross. Likewise, it is not common for a Territorial private to become Colonel-Commandant of his regiment, as he did.

Roy Stuart Marshall was born at Whitley Bay, Northumberland, on October 28, 1917. After leaving school he went into commerce, but with war clouds gathering, he enlisted in the Territorial Army in the 88th (2nd West Lan-

cashire) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, in April 1939. This was one of the first regiments of the British Expeditionary Force to disembark on French soil, which it did in the month following Britain's declaration of war on Germany.

With the irruption of the German armies into the Low Countries in May 1940, it was soon in the thick of the fighting, on the River Dyle, soon pulling back to the defence line of the Escaut.

Marshall, by now a lance-sergeant, was awarded the MM for gallantry, in desperate rearguard actions during the British retreat to the sea.

With the regiment back in Britain after the evacuation, he was commissioned in 1942. He then served in the Middle East, but returned to Europe

on D-Day, and participated in the campaign from the beachhead through to the end of the war with Germany. He won his Military Cross in 1945.

After taking the Staff course at Camberley, in 1947, he had a number of staff appointments before commanding an artillery regiment, and then, the 7th Artillery Brigade with the British Army of the Rhine, from 1962 to 1964.

After that he spent the year, 1965, at the Indian National Defence College, an interesting opportunity to broaden his experience. He was back in Germany in 1968, as Major-General Royal Artillery, the senior Gunner's appointment in BAOR.

His final appointment, as Deputy Master-General of the Ordnance, from 1969 to 1970, gave him responsibility for the provision of equipment to the Army. After his retirement, he was, from 1972 to 1977, Colonel-Commandant, Royal Artillery. Indeed he kept active, and had an advisory job with British Aerospace for a dozen years after he retired.

In what leisure time that remained to him in the brisk tempo he set himself, he relaxed with fishing, golf and bridge, and was a keen amateur painter.

He married, in 1946, Phyllis Mary Rawlings. They two sons.

Harry Ruson, an original member of the Harlem Globetrotters, died on November 9. He was 77.

During his time with the team (1934-9) he set up scoring records in three successive seasons, with an average of almost 20 points a game.

George Pettifor was the guest of honour.

Chemical Industries Association
The President of the Chemical Industries Association, Mr Alan Rae, was host at the annual dinner in London held at Grosvenor House on Thursday, November 12. Lord Young of Gramham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was the guest of honour. Among the guests were:

Lord Penrose, Lord Torfaen, Sir Brian Pim, Sir John Hoadley, Sir John Nicholson, Sir David Nicholson, Sir John Birt, Sir Thomas Rigg, Sir Hugh Ross, Mr. Sir Trevor Studd, Mr. Sir George Studd, Mr. Sir Angela Rumbold, Mr. Sir Angela Rumbold, Mr. Sir Angela Rumbold.

White Dove Ball
The Duchess of Gloucester will attend the White Dove Ball, in aid of The Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund, at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1, on December 1, 1987. Tickets, at £200 each inclusive, are available from Margot Countess of Buckinghamshire, President of the Ball. For further details: Telephone 01-352 3786.

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THE ARTS

Walking wonders

We are quite contrary in our fear of machines. Sometimes we are afraid we might become like them; sometimes that they might become like us.

Equinox's *Nature's Technology* (Channel 4) was comforting for those who feared that Perry Mason's mutation into Ironside was a ghastly prelude to some future wheeled obese existence for the human race. Machines are growing legs, with a little help from that extraordinary bipedal species, the insect.

TELEVISION

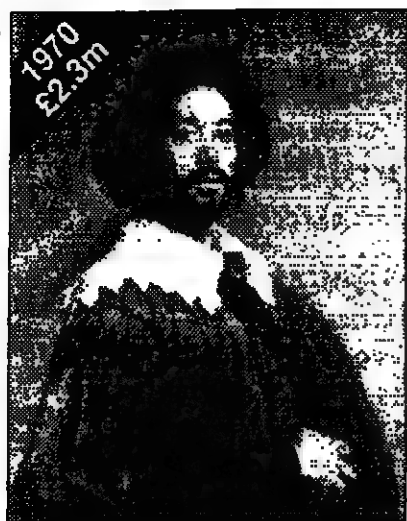
acted boffin. And they are finding it much more difficult than we — or the tortoises, insects and horses that they are now trying to imitate — did.

The bad news is that those who retreat to rough terrain to avoid Mr Toads behind the driving wheel are liable, in future, to be threatened by an insect-like military machine bearing down on them at a full eight miles an hour. But there are advantages. Those temperamental nuclear reactors, designed so that only those with human-type motor functions can reach some of their more lethal parts, can now cheerfully radiate a new class of worker which will never be played by the Meryl Streep of *Stilkwood*. This was one of the more successful technical programmes: the science was not so difficult as to blind the viewer and the machines gave an intriguing variety performance. Curiously, the less human of them, such as a one-legged hopper, seemed less threatening than the Japanese robot which could read music and play the organ.

We are even more contrary, however, in our fear of each other. *Girls Apart* (BBC2) gave voice to two "politically moderate" South African teenagers, one black, Sylvia, one white, Siska. It was a depressing experience for all those who hope that dialogue rather than bloodshed will bring justice to that unhappy land. The girls could not be brought together for a discussion, so the film itself was a form of apartheid. Siska was more educated and articulate, but looked and spoke like some South African Stepford daughter as the sweet-talked, with startling naivety, her received images of her beloved country.

Sylvia, too, spoke softly. She showed at a funeral of a comrade the cry of outrage and lament born of bitter personal experience; but though she had been arrested and had seen children tortured with electric shocks, she rejected violence. Sweet Siska, however, was prepared to join the army to defend her world.

Andrew Hislop



How the art market, after a stable period, suddenly soared: from left, Velasquez's "Portrait of Juan de Pareja", first to top £1m; Rubens's "Samson and Delilah"; Mantegna's "The Adoration of the Magi"; and Van Gogh's "Iris".

Sotheby's New York auction house was packed as never before on Wednesday night. "Every nouveau-riche man in the world was there," said Adam Williams, a New York dealer. From the start, prices were astonishing. "Bids were coming in from everywhere; but you couldn't tell who was buying what." Even a relatively humble Henri Fantin-Latour flower painting, bought by the London dealer Richard Green at Bonhams five years ago for £25,000, fetched \$616,000. In Williams's view "the prices were obscene".

But however obscene, none compared with that of the star turn — Vincent Van Gogh's "The Iris", which was knocked down at \$49 million. Even the second highest price — \$5.8 million, and a record for a Monet — was left standing. The bidding started ominously slowly, at \$15 million. At \$17 million, momentum was gained, and the bids bounded upwards in

Market without a roof

This week's sale of Van Gogh's "Iris" for £27 million highlights the staying power of the Impressionists. Sarah Jane Checkland reports

offering to waive buyer's premium, certainly vendor's commission, and persuading vendors in general to lower their reserves. In the event, any such fears were unfounded.

Amid the ballyhoo, no one asked whether this Van Gogh painting could really be worth so much more than any other. Nor did they reflect on the singular nature of the Impressionist market, so different at present from the rest. No one heard the faint echoes of gloom emanating from the London and

Geneva auction houses, where a third or more of the goods have gone unsold over the last week.

As a field of collecting, Impressionism is unique. For the auction houses it is the single area where they make most money. For the rich, but inexperienced buyer it is the perfect field to collect: you don't need to know about art history to appreciate an Impressionist landscape. It is a status symbol — a Van Gogh hanging on your wall is equivalent to a sign saying "I am worth a fortune".

Virtually all the record prices from recent sales have been for Impressionist paintings, with Van Gogh the runaway favourite. For the buyer, each top-class item may be appearing for the last time. For the seller (and John Whitney Payson, the seller of the Van Gogh is a good example) high prices encourage more works on to the market. Finally, the yen is strong, so the Japanese are jumping.

When seen more rationally, and translated into Swiss currency (the most stable of all), the soaring prices so deliriously promoted take on a different light. The 1970 record for Velasquez's "Juan de Pareja" is, expressed in sterling,

one tenth that of "Sunflowers" (March 1987), but switch that fraction into Swiss francs and it becomes around a third. Much the same applies to "Iris".

In fact, the full story of auction house prices since Black Monday has been one of caution. There has been a high failure rate in terms of lots — mainly in the middle range of price and quality. At Sotheby's British art sale yesterday, a runaway record price was achieved for a Stanley Spencer painting (£421,000) but in total 31 per cent failed to sell. This was a sale in which, ironically, the main casualties were the English equivalent to the Impressionists — plain air painters whose prices were rising until the slump.

The "real thing", however, is different. The world has an estimated 200 or so millionaires with the spare cash to buy art — and they are likely to go on buying Impressionists.

Pyjama games

DANCE

Trisha Brown
Sadler's Wells

Within limits, Trisha Brown's movement is highly ingenious. She sets her dancers skittering about the stage with a lot of quick, jittery steps, many turns and little jumps, much arm-swinging, some cartwheels, falls and backward rolls; sudden stops.

In *Set and Reset* this happens in what looks something like an airport lounge, thanks to Robert Rauschenberg's overhead installation of geometric objects with changing pictures projected on them. The insistent rhythms of Laurie Anderson's *Long Time No See* might also make you think of airports, but the dancers' flimsy pyjamas would hardly be the thing, except perhaps among returning holiday-makers.

Newark (it carries the baffling subtitle *Niweweorce*, which I suspect might be Anglo-Saxon), has what is described as visual presenta-

tion and sound concept by Donald Judd, sound orchestration and production by Peter Zummo. This turns out to be that loud blast of warning claxons erupt almost throughout, relieved only briefly towards the end by alarm bells, and that the dancers, in plain grey tights, perform in front (or even behind) curtains of different flat colours lowered and raised at various steps across the stage.

For *Oval Loop* there are no sounds, no setting, just four dancers, individually dressed in contrasted styles. It is thus the work in which Brown's dances are seen most clearly and, since it is shorter than the others, it offers less risk of the interest sagging.

Brown danced in two works last night, but will be replaced by others at later performances. Audiences need not feel deprived because the frisky manner of the dances suits her younger colleagues better. It is pleasant enough to watch for a while, but if it has anything to say for itself, that remains inscrutable to me.

John Percival

A public problem

THEATRE

Measure for Measure
Stratford

Nicholas Hytner's production opens with the thunderously amplified crash of a cell door, followed by the sight of the Duke (Roger Allam) trembling with dread as he signs the statute that will shortly put so many Viennese citizens behind bars.

At a stroke, the performance thus parts company from the long-prevailing idea of the absent Duke as an absentee deity: a source of absolute justice in contrast to his fallible subjects.

By acknowledging that he is as fallible as everyone else, the production gains a coherence that leaves you wondering how *Measure for Measure* even came to be labelled a problem play.

Mark Thompson sets the first scene against the base of two gigantic classical columns, which then revolve to display the festering stews of the city. A neat bit of scenic design also becomes a statement on the body politic: an architectural striptease recalling Lear's line on "robes and furred gowns".

The Duke, like Lear, appears as a protected innocent belatedly getting to know his own country. Like his Brutus, Allam's performance offers some magnificent verse speaking. What most distinguishes it is his fearless choice of emphasis, from which he builds up a character who feels guilty to be handing the dirty work over to Angelo but who will make any sacrifice to retain public sympathy.

In the speech on death, his eyes stray away from the condemned Claudio (Hakeem



Hakeem Kae-Kazim (Claudio) and Josette Simon (Isabella)

Kae-Kazim) and it is clear he is thinking only of himself. Time after time he gags his way out with panicky improvisation; and when he finally addresses his quavering proposition to Isabella, she turns scornfully away, seeing her noble protector shrivelling into another compromised male.

Play and casting both dictate that Josette Simon's Isabella should be the only nobly uncorrupted figure on stage. It is necessary for the scheme, and Miss Simon, a burnished icon of impassioned purity, fulfils it to the letter: duly soft-pedalling "more than our brother is our chastity" and enjoying a reconciliatory hug with the backsliding Claudio. The penalty is that she emerges as less humanly interesting than the surrounding hypocrites and sensualists.

In the absence of any absolute judge, they emerge with a wonderful contradictory vitality. Alex Jennings's

drawing Lucio can also, quite properly, spring gallantly to Claudio's defence. Phil Daniels's Pompey, features permanently fixed in a foxy leer, speaks up robustly for his imperilled trade. Even Sean Baker's Scottish Angelo, a legal cousin of Burns's Holy Wily, undergoes paroxysms of authentic self-hatred before throwing Isabella to the floor and straddling her as he delivers his ultimatum.

Modified modern costume (including punk variations of bicycling shorts) drives home the main line on the strength of the public life.

It is one strength of the show that so much of it does happen in public, from the uproarious hearing of the Froth case, to the sight of prison medicals and Pompey's prison librarian wheeling his books into the exercise yard. Hytner has made a notable Stratford debut.

Irving Wardle

Living happily ever after

Into the Woods
Martin Beck,
New York

From the enchanted Isle of *Sunday in the Park with George* to the bewitched forest of *Into the Woods*, the composer Stephen Sondheim and librettist/director James Lapine are leading musical theatre towards a splendour of sight, sound and subject that address man's deepest yearnings.

Into the Woods ingeniously mingles fairy tales to chart individual and communal journeys from the childlike dream world of "I wish" to the adult reality of "I take responsibility". The curtain rises on three households, with designer Tony Straiges's backdrop evocative of the drawings that illustrate Grimm's fairy tales. Sondheim's recurring motif is "I wish". Cinderella (Kim Crosby) wishes to attend the three balls at the palace festival and sets off to the woods to seek solace at her mother's grave. Jack (Ben Wright) and his mother (Barbara Bryne) wish for money, and Jack is sent through the woods to seek a buyer for his pet cow.

The baker (Chip Zein) and his wife (Joanna Gleason) wish for children and, in this tale invented by Lapine, their next-door witch (Bernadette Peters) sends them into the woods to get four items which will remove the curse she put on their family, as well as restore her youth and beauty. Tony Straiges's woods are a marvel of spooky trees and blossoms, fantastically lit by Richard Nelson. Ann Hould-Ward's costumes are amusing (Cinderella's wedding outfit spoofs Princess Di's, sexy (the Wolf suggests

a satyr), incredible (Peters as an ugly witch), and always fetching.

As the characters fulfil their wishes, there is much humour in incident and in Sondheim's masterfully clever lyrics. When the Wolf (Robert Westenberg) meets Little Red Riding Hood, he croons: "There's no possible way to describe what you feel when you're talking to your meat".

Sondheim's music sounds playfully simple — ditties, ballads, dances of childlike innocence, and a rap song for Peters's curse. Violins or woodwinds may hover beneath lyrics, however, adding an ominous or plaintive quality. The characterization, plot, joke or moral being conveyed in a lyric is often in counterpoint to the mood suggested by the beat or melody.

While the characters sing triumphantly "to be happy ever after you must see a wish come true" at the end of Act I, in Act II their wish becomes simply to stay alive. When the characters run back into the woods to hide, they must confront the price exacted for their first wishes. The dream world of "I wish" has a nightmare opposite, where unconscious fears of loss and helplessness come true. Those who survive learn much about themselves as individuals and as members of a community.

The cast are remarkable individually and collectively, and Lapine's direction is ever inventive. In the finale the characters sing "Into the woods you have to go but that's the way you grow". By taking audiences on this wondrous journey, *Into the Woods* sends us to find the best in ourselves and inspires us to hold it fast.

Holly Hill

Ostentation with style

CONCERTS

Montreal SO/
Dutoit
Festival Hall

Visiting orchestras always should play Bartok's *Concerto for Orchestra*. The piece is so much about showing off that it can take any amount of ostentatious virtuosity.

But when the effort to display is combined with wit and sophistication, well, then one must have been listening to Charles Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, because their performance of the work on Wednesday was quite the most brilliant, lively and funny I have heard.

It came at the right moment, for the first half of the concert had been disappointing. The orchestra's decision to play a local piece was laudable, but I cannot imagine Francois Morel's *Boreal* of 1960 to be the most stunning Quebecois composition of the last quarter-century and more: it was an undisguised compaction and simplification of Varese's *Arcana*. Then Brahms's First Piano Concerto found Barry Douglas below par, lucid but lacking in weight and accuracy, while the

orchestra was implausible in its rhythmic sense and search for colour.

Not so the Bartok. Few of the players, I would guess, can boast Hungarian extraction, but their phrasing of the shiftingly accented melodies was absolutely just and unanimous.

As for the humour, that came out in the delightful self-consciousness with which the bassoons executed their comic turn in the second movement, and in the mocking woodwind of the fourth movement, giving, for once, a proper impression of hilarity.

Paul Griffiths

LMP/Glover
Elizabeth Hall

The eternal search for the sugar to go with the pill, and the pill to go with the sugar (for that is how it is too often perceived) has been given a new twist by Jane Glover and the London Mozart Players.

A single contemporary piece is being programmed with a Mozart Concerto and a Haydn Symphony in each of six concerts of a season called "Music of Two Decades". The link, according to Glover, is between two periods of fecundity and two close-knit communities of composers: those born in the 1940s and

50s (including Knussen, Harvey, Holloway) and their 1780s Viennese predecessors.

Last night's particular link seemed to be an ear for instrumental sonority. Alexander Goehr's 1980 *Sinfonia*, with its stringent chamber scoring, was framed by the radiant conversation of Mozart's K459 Piano Concerto and the Symphony No 87 by Haydn. The London Mozart Players were in the mood to give Goehr's music a fine run for its money. The sense of continuity through its first two unbroken movements was vibrantly realized; its still centre, before the Variations and final *Dankagung*, was confirmed as a tour de force of imagination on the part of both Goehr and Philippa Davies, who played its flute solo.

Tamas Vasary was the soloist in the Mozart. Or was he? Partly because of his uncharacteristically grey, even diffident playing and partly because of the LMP's virtuoso wind soloists, it seemed more than ever an ensemble work. Jane Glover conducted it in the spirit of *Figaro*, emphasizing its buoyancy and length of line, and doing just obedience to the playing of Davies, Nicholas Daniel and John Whitfield in the slow movement.

Hilary Finch

SAMUEL BECKETT'S

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FRIDAY PAGE

Love at first sight

If instant love
does exist can it
ever survive?
Libby Purves
meets a couple
whose brief
encounter endured

Train journeys have never been quite the same since they made *Brief Encounter*. For almost 40 years women of all ages have been dabbling their eyes at the film's conclusion: in which Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard, chance-met in a station buffet but both married, decide that they must never meet again.

Leaving the cinema we could dream that years later, free of spouses, the couple would meet again and love would conquer all; but we suspected that these things did not happen outside novels.

Incurable optimists may now take heart: an extraordinary, real-life sequel to a brief encounter is about to be unveiled in a wonderfully soupy edition of *40 Minutes* called "Love at First Sight" with the almost unbearably romantic tale of Henrietta Garnett and John Baker.

It has everything: the meeting on the train, the desperate walk together through seedy streets, the renunciation. But then the story moves forward a dozen years to a reunion scene, with both lovers free to marry. Even better, the second meeting was entirely due to John's luck in spotting (on a train, naturally) a feature printed on this very page of *The Times* last October: there was Henrietta discussing her first novel, *Family Skeletons*... and the years melted away.

Anxious not to get too carried away by all this, I went to hear the story for myself from Henrietta and John, in the prosaic surroundings of a borrowed house on the fringes of Bloomsbury. This was appropriate: Henrietta Garnett is Virginia Woolf's great-niece. John Baker is a writer in a less literary genre: after a medical and scientific training, he has spent most of his life producing technical articles and brochures.



Together at last: John Baker and Henrietta Garnett. An affair seemed "impossibly shoddy"; they vowed never to meet again

On the day they first met, Henrietta had just delivered her 11-year-old daughter to boarding school. She was 29; she had married at 17 and been widowed a year later. She had travelled restlessly, swung through the gaudier end of Sixties society, "which I enjoyed, although it seemed to end in my going to a lot more funerals than weddings or christenings", but on the day she took the train from Totnes she was unattached. John, on the other hand, was married with a small child.

Both swear they were not looking for romance. "I wasn't even brought up to speak to people on trains," Henrietta says primly. But from the first moment they saw one another through the window, something happened. "A lunatic love, with no logic behind it," is how Henrietta describes it. "An overwhelming awareness," according to John. They both went for a drink in the buffet car, and John crossed the carriage and said: "We are bound to meet. My name is John. What is yours?" They

talked, mainly about writing. The next day they met at Cambridge Circus and spent hours walking and talking. "And I learnt that he had a wife and child."

By the end of that walk, they had decided to take it further. An affair seemed, in John's words, "impossibly shoddy". There seems to have been no disagreement. Henrietta says: "I may have been a Bloomsbury girl, but people get it all wrong — they were very ethical. A dash of John Stuart Mill, a dash of Berie Russell. My own husband had died and left me with a baby. How could I run off with a man who was the father of a child of one?" They promised never to contact one another again.

"Afterwards," says John, "when I understood that I'd just said goodbye to the most valuable thing life could possibly offer, I found that reading helped. Particularly one short novel by Zola, *Thérèse Raquin*. When I wished I'd done it, I'd say 'remember Thérèse Raquin.' It is a horrifying book about a couple who murder the girl's husband

and marry, but are haunted and driven bitterly apart by the ghost of his drowned and rotting corpse. "I'd think, who am I to demolish others in order to get what I want?"

Henrietta tried to forget him (she actually succeeded in forgetting his surname), travelled, had adventures. Nearly 13 years passed. John's marriage collapsed, and he was divorced. Then Henrietta wrote her novel, talked about it in *The Times*, and John saw her face again. He decided to write to her, carefully adopting a friendly, noncommittal tone.

At first Henrietta failed to connect her correspondent with the incident from her past. Nevertheless she rang the number he provided, and had a peculiar conversation which culminated in the gradual realization that he was John-on-the-train, her brief, long-lost love.

She was living near Dieppe, and invited him for the weekend, and on that romantic station, they met again "with a hug. Not a sexy hug, but it said

enough." He was already in love; she "out of nerves, didn't fall in love until we got to the car". Over dinner, before he had got through his plateful of mussels, she had reached the point where she felt "passionately jealous" of the particular mussel he was eating. Fourteen days later they were married in St Pancras Register Office, "in front of a fake Canaletto".

Everything has changed. They live in her house in Dieppe. John has found a new creative energy in his early fifties and is writing films; Henrietta is writing her second novel with new delight.

They never stop to wonder what would have happened if one of them had missed that train. "Well, I always caught the 5.12 when I'd been working down there," John says prosaically. And Henrietta: "If we hadn't met then, we would have met later on. Somewhere."

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40 Minutes is on BBC2 next Thursday at 9.30pm. Family Skeletons by Henrietta Garnett is published by Gollancz (£9.95).

A new rhythm for adolescent blues?

At the beginning of last week, late-night passengers on the Underground found themselves being "steamed". A gang of about 20 youths went from carriage to carriage, threatening and robbing travellers. According to the news reports, the trouble began at a concert at Hammersmith Odeon, where American rap star L.L. Cool J was thumping out his hit songs. The nastiness of some of the audience spilled over to the tube trains. The next evening, on television, a police spokesman carefully suggested that the public might want to think about banning "rap" concerts. In the three evenings of performances, Scotland Yard had reported more than 100 incidents in and around the Hammersmith area, including one attack on a policeman who had ammonia thrown in his eyes.

What exactly, I wondered, as I read reports of the incident, is so combustible about rap? My copy of the new album by American rap star L.L. Cool J (*Ladies Love Cool James*) did not come with a libretto so I had to sit close to my tape deck and keep pressing the stop and start button in order to catch the lyrics of his chart-topping song "I'm Bad", which began with a percussion growl and the lyrics: "Aaaaaaahhh. Nobody can rap quite like I can/I'll take a music-bound man and put his face in the sand."

Rap music is said to have come from the black ghettos of New York. It sounds like a sort of *sprechgesang* of the Bronx, a rhyming singsong. Its lyrics generally celebrate the singer and his accomplishments in the face of a mean, tough world. It has what the early Seventies called a "walk tall" attitude. But this music is pretty much a-political, more an excuse for a lot of stage business. "He emerged on stage at the Odeon," wrote one awed newspaper critic last week of L.L. Cool J, "out of a giant boogie box and gave a rap, insanely loud rap on life."

Boogie box? I was not surprised to catch a monosyllabic discussion of rap music on LWT's *Night Network*.



BARBARA AMIEL

encourage the worst elements." The police officers might have been comforted to know that this matter has been touched on by Allan Bloom, the distinguished American author, in his new book *The Closing of the American Mind*. Bloom, a co-director of Inquiry into the Theory and Practice of Democracy at the University of Chicago, writes brilliantly on the influence of

What happens to civilization when young people have their senses deadened by rock?

rock music, which he sees as formative in the development of young people's character.

"Picture a 13-year-old boy," writes Bloom, "sitting in the living room of his family home doing his math assignment while wearing his Walkman headphones and watching music videos. He enjoys the liberties hard won over centuries by the alliance of philosophical genius and political heroism, consecrated by the blood of martyrs; he is provided with comfort and leisure by the most productive economy ever known to mankind; science has penetrated the secrets of nature in order to provide him with the marvellous lifelike electronic sound and image reproduction he is enjoying."

"And in what does progress culminate? A pubescent child whose body throbs with orgasmic rhythms; whose feelings are made articulate in hymns to the joys of onanism or the

killing of parents: whose ambition is to win fame and wealth in imitating the drag queen who makes the music; in short, life is made into a non-stop, commercially pre-packaged masturbatory fantasy."

Well, yes, I suppose that rock music is all that Bloom says it is. At its most effective it can provide a sort of premature ecstasy in which listeners experience what Bloom describes as the exaltation naturally attached to the completion of the greatest endeavours — victory in a just war, consummated love, artistic creation, religious devotion and discovery of truth. These feelings can all be induced in adolescents without them having to put any effort, talent, virtue or work into getting them. All they have to do, for example, is switch on their headphones and listen to a hyped-up version of Live Aid's national anthem to experience the satisfaction of brotherly love and compassion without doing a fig about it.

Bloom's concern, of course, is not specifically with what happens after a rock concert, but what happens to civilization when most of its young people have all their senses, which should be opened to sublime experience and a liberal education, deadened by the narcotic of rock music. I share his worry, naturally, but I can't help feeling that in spite of the undeniable influence music has upon us all — an influence that Plato called an appeal to the dark, barbarous forces in us — its effect is not quite so determinate and final as he supposes, or the police worry.

After all, music of the type I like and find ennobling does not necessarily translate into approved social actions. A lot of concentration camp commanders played Mozart, and none of us really want to judge the Ring cycle by Hitler. Nor will I judge rap music by tube train punks, whose behaviour is simply criminal and could have been induced by anything — or nothing. I think rap can be judged entirely on its own merits and it seems to me that that might lead to a solution that should satisfy all camps: rap concerts given in deserted fields, a good tramp away from the Piccadilly line, and well out of earshot of most civilized human beings.

Hint of secrets Act change

PRIME MINISTER

Government is still considering whether to bring forward a new Bill to change the Official Secrets Act, but it does it will be more restrictive than the present Act, the Prime Minister has said.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thames Valley University) said that he was not aware of any plans to change the Official Secrets Act, but he was aware of the fact that the Government was considering it.

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No home away from home

There comes a time in a traveller's life, according to Dervla Murphy, "when you want to go for something with a bit of meat in it, something that's more than just a frolic". With eight travel books behind her, her latest work is as far removed from being a frolic as a T-bone steak is from a soufflé. This time her travels took her no further than Birmingham and Bradford — or, to stretch the point, to Pakistan and the West Indies, for the people she went to live among originated from these two places.

She was not to know it at the time, but for the immigrant communities of Birmingham, in Bradford and Handsworth, Birmingham, 1985 was to be a year of considerable and violent unrest.

In Birmingham, she observed and recorded the bitter quarrel which centred on Ray Honeyford, the headmaster whose views on multicultural education caused so much distress, and in Handsworth she witnessed the incident which sparked off the appalling riots of that summer. *Tales of Two Cities* gives voice to the black and brown immigrants of these areas — angry, bewildered, frightened or just plain weary.

We also hear from a white community which is equally frightened and angry for above all, this is a balanced book with every point of view clearly stated.

Living with racial prejudice and raw hate "was harrowing and I was on my knees in the end", she says. In the book we meet the people who brought her to that state — the Mirpuri girl, beaten by her father

How immigrant unrest in Britain shaped a traveller's harrowing tale



Dervla Murphy: "Something more than just a frolic"

because she married a man of her own choice; Lyndon, the listless young West Indian whose childhood was spent in five different children's homes and who eventually committed suicide; Phil, a mild-mannered white Englishman whose workmates taunted him so much about his West Indian wife — "your fuzzy-wuzzy" — that he was driven to uncharacteristic violence.

Was it ever too much for her? "No, I'm a writer and while I was being harrowed, I was also interested in the whole thing." And guilt, did that make an appearance at all? After all, a white writer is a fairly privileged member of society — as her immigrant neighbours constantly reminded her. "I write from a permanent background of guilt but that's so totally un-

structive that I dispense with it as useless."

For a traveller who can happily sleep in her clothes for months on end, bed-sit-land on north still came as a surprise — walls smeared with the mortal remains of bedbugs and floors resounding to the march of cockroaches.

She says she is "bitterly disappointed" with her book. "It wasn't always possible to say exactly what I wanted to; initially, it was twice the length." She feels that serious trouble lies ahead in the area of race relations and on the question of education, her views are equally strong: "History must be taught from a balanced point of view. Many of the young blacks I got to know had been taught all about the evils of slavery, but few of them knew the role Africans themselves have played in its promotion. That came as a shock to them, and they felt a sort of betrayal that they hadn't been taught that side of it at school. And, of course, white people must be taught about the real aspects of, say, Mirpuri society."

Next summer, she plans to load a tent on the back of her bike and cycle round the 32 counties of Ireland in order to find out something of the feelings of the young people on each side of the divide. That is likely to produce a book which, for some at least, will be every bit as close to the knuckle as her most recent one.

Mary Russell

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Tales From Two Cities is published this week (John Murray, £12.95)

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The Times invites you to do your Christmas shopping in style on November 24 and December 1, when, between 6.30pm and 8.30pm, Liberty stores will be opening their doors exclusively to Times readers. Each store will be offering a free draw and for every £50 they spend during the evening, guests will receive a £5 Liberty voucher. At Regent Street there will also be a host of special activities with Times experts on hand to offer advice.

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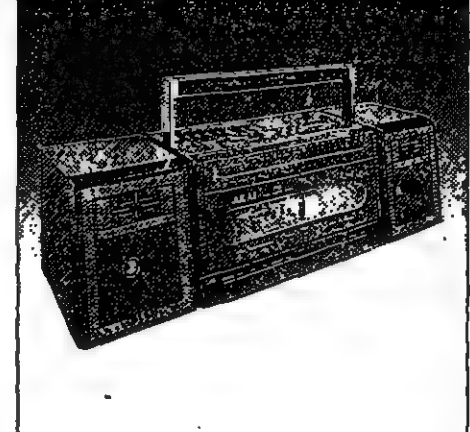
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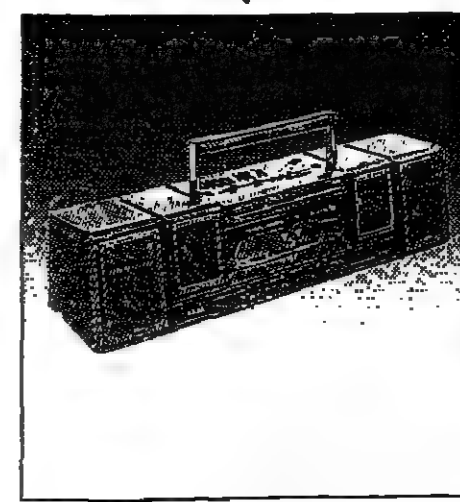
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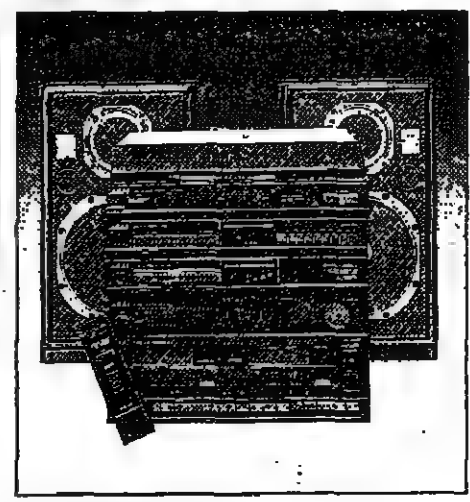
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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:** Dame Edna Everage back again looking the part. Strand Theatre, Aldwych WC2 (01-836 2600). Tue: Charing Cross. Previews tonight, tomorrow and Nov 16, 7.30-10.30pm. First night Nov 17, 7.10pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.10-10.30pm. Sat 8.15-11pm. Sat 2.30-5.30pm. £5.50-£17.50.

★ **BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT:** Frank Finkley, Wendy Craig and others in Jeffrey Archer courtroom drama. Queens Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-734 1188). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm. Sat 8.30-10.15pm. Mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.15-7.15pm. £5-£13.50.

★ **DANGEROUS OBSESSION:** Dinsdale Landin, Carol Drinkwater and Jeremy Bulloch in N.J. Crisp's psychological thriller. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 2665). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm. Sat 8.30-10.15pm. Mats 2.30-5.15pm and Sat 5.15-7.15pm. £5-£13.50.

★ **THE FIGHTING KITE:** Skinsheads and their Southall victims in first play by Harvatt Bains. Theatre Royal, Coventry Square E15 (01-534 0310). Tue: Stratford. Mon-Sat 8.10pm, £2.50-£9.50.

★ **HAMLET MACHINE:** Heiner Müller's meditation on Hamlet, much praised in New York in this production by Robert Wilson. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-389 4404). Tue: Highbury & Islington. Tonight and tomorrow 8.10-10.30pm. Mats 3.30-5.30pm. £8.

★ **IT'S A GIRL:** Bush Theatre responds after its fire with John Burrows's exhilarating all-woman musical show on pregnancy and allied matters. Bush Theatre, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 (01-743 3388). Tue: Shepherd's Bush. Tues-Sat, 8pm, £5.

★ **J. J. FARR:** Albert Finney and Bob Peck in new Ronald Harwood drama about a priest emerging from five months captivity as a hostage. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-836 2294). Tue: Tottenham Court Road. Previews until Nov 17, 8.10pm. First night Nov 18, 7.10pm. Then Mon-Sat 8.10-10.15pm. Mats 2.30-5.15pm. £5-£13.50.

★ **LAST SUMMER IN CHILUMIS:** Discontented Russians passing time in small Siberian village. A popular Russian play, with Sylvia Sims, Roy Marsden, Alan Gillett. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road W8 (01-746 8354). Tue: Hammerstein. Mon-Sat 8.10pm, £5.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** Maggie Smith and Margaret Tyacke wage epic war against the modern world in Peter Shaffer's new comedy. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667). Tue: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 7.45-10.15pm. Mats 3.30-5.30pm. £7.50-£14.50.

★ **A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS:** Charlton Heston takes over the role of Sir Thomas More in the strongly cast transfer from Chichester. Savoy Theatre, Strand WC2 (01-836 8888). Tue: Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm. Mats 2.30-5.15pm. £5-£14.50.

★ **SERIOUS MONEY:** Caryl Churchill's searing musical play about the Big Bang transfers after a sell-out run at the Royal Court. Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 3028). Tue: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs 8.10-10.30pm. Fri and Sat 8.15-10.45pm. Mats Fri 5.7-7.30pm and Sat 4.30-6.30pm. £5-£13.50.

★ **A VISION OF LOVE REVEALED IN SLEEP:** Neil Bartlett and Robin Whitmore in a derelict warehouse interpret the homo-erotic fantasies of Sigmund Freud, Victorian painter and prisoner. ICA/Riverside co-production. Warehouse, 5 Maguire Street, Butlers Wharf SE1. (01-746 3354/830 3647). Tue: Tower Hill/London Bridge. Buses 18, 47, 10 to Jamaica Road or Docklands Light Railway to Tower Gateway. Tues-Sat 8-9pm, £5.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Best of Murder. Mayfair Theatre (01-429 3036). ★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-429 0072). ★ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Apollo Theatre (01-437 2665). ★ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Apollo Theatre (01-437 2665). ★ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Apollo Theatre (01-437 2665).

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FILMS

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**

★ **ANGEL HEART (18):** Mickey Rourke's down-at-heel detective pursues a missing person to the seamy underworld of New Orleans. Park stuf, directed by Alan Parker in slum-bang style (113 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.25, 5.50, 8.40.

★ **ARMA (18):** A mixed bag of directors put visuals to 10 operatic bon-bons from RSC's record catalogue. Directors include Jean-Luc Godard, Robert Altman, Nicolas Roeg, Ken Russell and Derek Jarman. Lantana (01-336 0891). Progs 1.10, 3.05, 5.05, 7.05, 9.10.

★ **BEVERLY HILLS COP (15):** Eddie Murphy repeats his performance as the brash Detroit cop on a job in Los Angeles. Tony Scott directs. (103 min). Cannon Baker Street (01-635 9772). Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30. Cannon Baker Street (01-635 9772). Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30.

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Capturing the self-assured confidence of the young Teddy boys (above) kicking their heels on street corners and the sheer vivacity and excitement of children at play and at war is what social documentary photographer Roger Mayne made uniquely his own. When Colin MacLennan's cut-throat 1959, *Absolute Beginners*, was made into a film, it was back to back it drew attention to Mayne's work, not simply because his photographs appeared on the original book jackets, but because MacLennan set his novel in a district of London which Mayne had already chronicled as his own - north Kensington and the streets of W10. While MacLennan was charting his heroes' path through the shabbiness of Notting Hill with his coffee bars and jazz clubs, Mayne was creating his own unique historical document. For six years from 1956 to 1961 he visited one particular street, Soham Street - now swept from the map - 27 times, taking over 1400 photographs. The results of this concentrated examination of the life and vitality of one street can be seen in the fine touring exhibition, *Street Photographs of Roger Mayne*, at Brighton Polytechnic Gallery, Faculty of Art and Design, Grand Parade, Brighton (0273 604141) until December 2. Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. free.

★ **WHITWORTH YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES:** Works by 50 artists competing for five biennial awards. Whitworth Art Gallery, Whitworth Park, Manchester (061 273 4855). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, free, until Dec 19.

★ **THE AGE OF CHIVALRY:** Major survey of arts and crafts in Plantagenet England, 1200-1400. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 9052). Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, £4. until March 6.

★ **EDWARDIAN ELEGANCE:** Portraits and scenes of High Society by painters such as de Laszlo, Philip and John Quincy Adams. Chester Wood Gallery, 15 Macclesfield Street, London W1 (01-235 9141). Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm. Sat 10am-1pm, free, until Nov 26.

★ **FRANZ XAVER WINTERHALTER (1805-1873):** 19th century royalty history portrayed by their favourite painter. National Portrait Gallery, 2 St Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat 10am-6pm, Tue 2-6pm, £2, until Jan 10.

★ **ARTISTS LOOK AT CONTEMPORARY BRITAIN:** Ken Currie, R. B. Kitaj and Helen Chadwick are among ten artists examining aspects of social life in Britain. Plus: Diego Rivera. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (01-861 0127). Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-6pm, £2, until Jan 10.

★ **MAINTENANCE AND MORALS:** Challenging the emergence of a British School in painting during the lifetime of William Hogarth (1697-1764). Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, £2, until Jan 10.

★ **OLD NEW YORK 1660-1820:** A series of 12 paintings by John Verelsteyn, showing the city of New York from the 17th to the 19th century. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, £2, until Jan 10.

★ **KISS ME KATE:** A musical about the life of the actress Kate Winslet. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-300 9000). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £10-£25.

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5.50pm, Sun 2-5.50pm, £3, until Jan 3.

★ **VIEW OF THE PAST:** Seven centuries of topographical draughtsmanship - examples from the British Library. British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-636 1555). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, free, until Jan 31.

★ **DANCE**
★ **GLORIANA:** New work for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet by Michael Corder, starring Galina Samsova, to Britten's music with designs by Philip Prowse. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 6196). 7.30-10.15pm, £2.50-£7.50.

★ **STRANVAGIA:** Bernard Herrick conducts the Royal Ballet in a triple bill, with Bryn Terfel, Cynthia Harvey and Deborah Bull all new in the leading roles. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066). 7.30-10.30pm. £1-£30.

★ **NEWARK:** London premiere by Trisha Brown Dance Company. Also *Set and Reset* with music by John Adams and design by Robert Rauschenberg. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 6196). 7.30-10.15pm, £2.50-£7.50.

★ **MY BODY YOUR BODY:** New work by Trisha Brown Dance Company. Also *Set and Reset* with music by John Adams and design by Robert Rauschenberg. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 6196). 7.30-10.15pm, £2.50-£7.50.

★ **THE PEARL FISHER:** Last chance to see Philip Prowse's elegant ballet production. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 6196). 7.30-10.15pm, £2.50-£7.50.

★ **IL SERAGLIO:** David Pountney's production of the opera, now staged for a tour by Richard Jones. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 6196). 7.30-10.15pm, £2.50-£7.50.

★ **CONCERTS**
★ **LENINGRAD/EMERSON:** Orchestre National de France conducts the Shostakovich's Symphony No 7 'Leningrad' and Annie Fischer's 'The Four Seasons'.

★ **MAURE SYZMANOWSKI:** An unusual programme by the Scottish National Orchestra conducted by Gergor Novak. Royal Albert Hall, London W1 (01-235 9141). Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm. Sat 10am-1pm, free, until Nov 26.

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Commons sketch

Miss Charlotte Wintringham-White, aged 15, who sleeps in the same "cowshed", the unflattering description the girls give their

The Princess and her sisters, Lady Jane (left) and Lady Sarah (right) with Miss Rudge, the retiring headmistress, at West Heath School, Sevenoaks

Prince William (left) stands to attention and (right) he and his brother

On a private tour of her old haunts, a part of her visit which was off limits to the Press, the Princess met her old preparatory school, who were given the morning off to greet her: "It is a funny feeling to be back at your old school."

Miss Beckwith-Smith

Despite all those years he left, the Princess had not forgotten the rules. Spotting reporting on a close-cut he called across: "You supposed to be on the you know."

But he went on: "I hope there will be even more entries in this category in 1987-88 so that the excellent work already

He drew special attention to the Derry Inner City and Lightmoor projects, winners of the top Charles Douglas Home awards in the previous two years, which had set an extremely high standard.

"We should all be spurred

The scheme was started in 1985 to encourage local community involvement in the process of commissioning, designing and managing buildings of all types. More than 300 entries were received in the first two years.

Any type of building project is eligible, including housing refurbishment and renovation, community centres, adventure playgrounds, urban farms, small business workshops and environmental improvements.

The closing date for entries is February 12, 1988.

2

16

ACROSS	
1 Hidden half of proverb (3.2.5).	2 Classified with respect to v (3.6).
6 Kind behaviour (4).	3 Not allowed date, say, with respect of desire? (9.5).
10 Was high-minded, like sanctimonious inner circle (7).	4 State of mind I analyse in (7).
11 Kind that is wearing glasses (7).	5 Behan character's call for action on the boards (7).
12 Letters from maniac are in US collection (9).	7 Bulb I planted in most numbers (5).
13 Write to church, for change (5).	8 Expert with solution that many doors (6-3).
14 Fragment to drop right in the middle (5).	9 Constant control some used in drawing (9.5).
15 Cowed a multitude without point (3-6).	14 Newspaperman, one taken without foundation (9).
17 Like Flora's odd action in French dance (9).	16 It is customary to turn it when at sea (9).
20 Invariably archaic (5).	18 Wine essential to BBC, re speaking (7).
21 Sleep around Beachy Head — does not (9).	19 Dropped right in this? No (4.3).
23 Bending with 19, a cause of ill-feling (9).	22 Summary champion holds somebody (5).
25 Training unit to manoeuvre without one (7).	24 Biting cold (5).
26 Excel in public works (7).	
27 Flier able to defeat even ace (4).	
28 In my case, one's deceived and left in error (10).	

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opens	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
etimes	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
ing ac-	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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ughly	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
o, no!	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
is for	1	16	39	59	80	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Manchester	3.7	.02	9	48	shower		
Nat'l at-Tyne	0.0	0.0	9	48	bright		
Nottingham	6.1	0.04	4	48	shower		
Anglesey	0.4	-	9	48	cloudy		
Cardiff (C)	1.8	.44	9	48	cloudy		
Colwyn Bay	2.8	.06	10	50	cloudy		
Aberdeen	1.0	.06	6	43	shower		
Avalonere	1.3	.30	9	48	hail		
Edinburgh	0.3	.09	7	45	shower		
Glasgow	-	.56	8	46	shower		
Kings	7	4.5	7	45	hail		
Lerwick	0.3	0.3	7	45	hail		
Prestwick	-	.26	9	48	hail		
Stornoway	5.8	.13	42	suny			
Wick	1.8	.30	7	45	hail		
Wick	7.1	.30	7	45	sunny		
Belfast	1.8	.30	7	45	sunny		

* Denotes figures not available

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	21.75	20.65
Austria Sch	21.73	20.58
Belgium Fr	64.85	61.65
Canada \$	11.20	2.265
Denmark Kr	11.20	11.20
Finland Mk	7.64	7.24
France Fr	16.76	16.76
Germany DM	19.36	19.36
Greece Dr	27.25	245
Hong Kong \$	14.15	13.45
India Rs	1.10	1.10
Italy Lire	2270	2160
Japan Yen	220	220
Netherlands Gld	2.34	2.34
Norway Kr	11.85	11.20
Portugal Esc	250	250
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Pts	207.75	196.75
Switzerland Fr	11.18	10.63
Switzerland Fr	12.75	12.75
USA \$	1.84	1.75
Yugoslavia Dr	2250	1850

Rates for small denomination bank notes are only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

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46

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MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 8C (48F); min 6 pm to 8 am, 4C (39F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.02cm. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.7 hr.

Sun rises

7.14 am

Sun sets

4.15 pm

Moon sets

1.42 pm

Moon rises

10.56 pm

Last Quarter 2.38 pm

CURRENT
 GOLD
 NORTH SEA

1

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 13 1987

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1328.8 (+38.8)

FT-SE 100

1702.5 (+63.2)

Bargains

56334 (39730)

USM (Datastream)

139.06 (+8.34)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.7625 (-0.0170)

W German mark

2.9813 (+0.0006)

Trade-weighted

75.3 (-0.1)

Whitehall
sets up BP
helpline

The Government has established a telephone helpline for the 270,000 individuals who purchased shares in the ill-fated BP privatization issue. Callers will be able to make inquiries about the letters of allotment and the Bank of England's buy-back scheme.

It is not, however, intended for advice on whether investors should hold their shares. The line will be open from 8am to 8pm, from Monday to Saturday. The telephone number is 0272 277000.

OIL results, page 27

Royal advance

Royal Insurance, Britain's largest composite insurer, made pre-tax profits of £259 million in the nine months to end-September, a 34 per cent increase. US profits rose to £114.6 million from £81.6 million and in Britain they rose to £63.7 million from £56.8 million.

Tempos, page 26

In tomorrow's *Family Money* we examine the Abbey National's new habit of challenging the high street banks, and tell how unit trusts are poised to become even riskier.

Shearson staff

Shearson Lehman Brothers International has appointed Mr Geoff Chamberlain as chief operating officer of UK equities. Mr Roger Streeter, head of British equity market making, and Mr Bob Carthy, chief of sales trading.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1982.70 (+63.50)*
Dow Jones	21548.50 (+508.74)
Hong Kong	2150.87 (+104.89)
Amsterdam Gen	1208.00 (+55.33)
Sydney AD	1381.9 (+85.5)
Frankfurt	3751.4 (-90.2)
Paris CAC	284.5 (-7.8)
Zurich SIK Gen	n/a
London	
FT-A All Share	849.35 (+31.52)
FT-100	837.74 (+34.19)
FT Gold Minis	282.6 (+14.0)
FT Fixed Interest	85.66 (+0.55)
FT Govt Secs	81.14 (+0.15)
Recent Issues	Page 38
Closing Prices	Page 38

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISE:	
ICI	1108p (+82p)
Glaxo	1130p (+70p)
Shell	1020p (+20p)
Cookson Group	473p (+27p)
Pilkington	327p (+32p)
Benliff Holdings	69p (+22p)
Bootham	459p (+50p)
Costain	254p (+20p)
Portals Holdings	245p (+45p)
TI Group	283p (+30p)
Tommorrows	380p (+50p)
Yale Valer	233p (+28p)
Kwik Fit	180p (+28p)
Tie Rack	115p (+21p)
BOC Group	359p (+23p)
BAT Industries	485p (+23p)
Wellcome	349p (+45p)

FALLS:

Jacksons Bourne	335p (-30p)
Thames TV	278p (-15p)
Royal Insurance	380p (-8p)
Prices are as at 4pm	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month Interbank 9-8 1/2%	
3-month eligible bills 8 1/4-8 3/4%	
buying rate	
US Prime Rate 8 1/4%	
Federal Funds 6 1/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills 5.83-5.82%	
30-year bonds 100 1/2-100 1/4%	

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£ \$1.7625	\$ £1.7585*
DM 2.9813	DM 1.6975*
SwF 2.4508	SwF 1.3990*
FF 10.9698	FF 5.7525*
Yen 236.40	Yen 188.40*
Index 75.3	Index 95.8
ECU 0.692581	SDR 0.758508

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$463.00 pm \$462.45
close \$463.25-463.75 (\$262.00-262.40)	
New York	Comex \$462.90-463.40*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Dec.)	pm \$18.00/bbl (\$17.95)
Denotes latest trading price	

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City Diary	27	Unit Trusts	38
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Co News	30	USM Prices	38
World Markets	35	Share Prices	39

☆☆☆☆☆

Dollar and shares rise as monthly deficit falls

Improved US trade
figures lift markets

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Improved US trade figures, now the most closely watched economic barometer, boosted share prices on Wall Street and caused the dollar to rise sharply on world markets yesterday.

Relieved traders, concerned that an increase in the September deficit would cause financial markets to collapse, said the reduced deficit of \$14.08 billion (£8 billion), down from \$15.68 billion in August, had given markets a "breathing space". Analysts had estimated that the deficit would range from \$14 billion to \$16.6 billion in September.

The new data were released as White House and Congressional negotiators reported that they were close to announcing the broad outlines of a deficit-reduction agreement. The agreement, to reduce the deficit by an estimated \$32

billion, was expected to include tax increases of no less than \$10 billion.

But officials involved in the talks said the negotiators, in their deliberations on a broad outline, had decided to leave the details, the tough decisions on specific taxes and levels of expenditure cuts for individual programmes, to the tax and appropriations committees in Congress. This could add weeks to the process. These committees in the past have rejected proposals similar to those under discussion.

Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said yesterday the President wanted a compromise similar to the \$30 billion proposal made by House Republicans.

Analysts said yesterday that it was unclear whether world markets would be satisfied by

a proposal that did not specify details. It was also unclear whether the other industrialized countries would agree that enough progress had been made on the deficit to convene another meeting of the Group of Seven countries.

The new trade figures, the lowest monthly deficit since last May, revealed an improved pattern of rising exports and falling imports, largely due to a substantial 16.3 per cent decline in the value of petroleum imports last month. Exports of manufactured goods rose to \$21 billion, from \$20.2 billion the month before, while imports declined to \$35.1 billion from \$35.9 billion.

For the year as a whole, however, the deficit continues to grow at a record pace of \$166.9 billion. Some economists fear the US trade deficit

cannot be corrected without inducing a world recession. This could be averted if Europe and Japan, which have a combined gross national product nearly double that of the US, agree to play a greatly enhanced role, according to Mr Stephen Morris, a senior fellow of the Institute for International Economics.

But confusion remains over the direction of US policy and the position of the US Federal Reserve Board. President Reagan said this week he did not want a further fall in the dollar but Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, said the US is now pursuing a new policy of lower interest rates.

At some point, if the dollar continues to plunge, the Fed is likely to come to its defence to preserve investor confidence, analysts said.

Rally lifts
FT index
over 1,700

By Michael Clark

Share prices on the London stock market yesterday managed to extend this week's rally, helped by better-than-expected US trade figures.

The FT-SE 100 again topped the 1,700 level with a rise of 63.2 to 1,702.5. The narrower FT index finished 38.8 up at 1,328.8.

Share prices are now trading at their cheapest levels for almost 12 years compared with the gilt market.

Government securities also recovered from a hesitant start, reversing earlier falls of 1/4%.

The dollar rose strongly, backed by the improved US trade figures and hopes of an early budget agreement in Washington. It rose by nearly two pence to DM1.6915 in New York to \$1.7625 and the sterling index slipped 0.1 to 75.3.

Shares crash making Bank
cautious on further rate cut

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England, in its first assessment of the economy since the stock market crash, says base rates were cut because the crash dampened growth and inflation prospects, and because of the need to restore confidence.

But there is no hint in the Bank's analysis that there will be a further sharp fall in British interest rates by the end of the year.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin*, published last night, says that the equity market fall helped solve the dilemma in monetary policy.

Before the crash, strong growth in the domestic money supply measures pointed to a cautious approach to interest rates, the Bank said, while the pound's rise against the mark argued for cutting rates.

The stock market fall implied a tightening of monetary conditions by raising the cost

of equity capital to firms and, through the wealth effect, by reducing consumption in Britain.

Base rates were reduced on October 23 and November 4 for this reason, alongside, according to the Bank, "the desirability of imparting a calming influence to financial markets."

But with the pound no longer pushing up towards the

Stock market 26
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DM3 level, the equity market recovering and the British economy expected to continue to grow at more than the average of the other Group of Seven countries, the Bank is likely to adopt a cautious approach to further interest rate reductions.

Interest rates, both short and long, had risen earlier in the year in response to inflationary worries, the Bulletin says. The deflationary effects of the stock market fall have made it appropriate for the world's monetary authorities "to adopt a supportive stance" by reversing the earlier interest rate increases.

Further international action is urged now, with the emphasis on fiscal policy, action that is wider than reductions in the US budget deficit alone.

The Bank's world economy forecasts are for growth in the main six overseas countries - the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy and Canada - of 2.3 per cent next year and 2.2 per cent in 1989, after 2.6 per cent this year.

World inflation is forecast to rise to 3.8 per cent next year and 4 per cent in 1989, after 3 per cent this year.

BOC protects against
fluctuations in dollar

By Colin Campbell



Down in the salary stakes: Richard Giordano

Tempos, page 26

The BOC Group of gas and health care companies relieved stock market doubts about currency movements yesterday with the assurance that it has protected itself against violent dollar fluctuations.

Mr Richard Giordano, once Britain's highest paid executive, said that BOC had taken forward cover in respect of expected dollar earnings this current financial year.

He also hinted that BOC was in an acquisition mood, suggesting that recent stock market weakness had uncovered opportunities.

The net effect was to encourage stock market analysts, who had earlier trimmed their profit expectations by up to £15 million because of the group's dollar exposure, and the shares rose by 25p to 356p.

Pretax profits of the BOC Group for the year ended September 30 were £263.2 million compared with £213.4 million, and would have been £16 million higher but for exchange rate movements, on a turnover of £1.96 billion.

The final dividend rises from 6.42p to 7.65p a share, making a year's total payment of 12.8p (10.79p).

Mr Giordano, whose salary fell by 12.5 per cent to £772,800 from £883,200 in the 1986 financial year and who has now been overtaken in the salary stakes by others, conceded yesterday that his salary had fallen again in sterling terms for 1987.

Wellcome ahead to £169m

By Carol Ferguson

Better than expected profits yesterday made Wellcome, the pharmaceuticals group, one of the best performing stocks in a firm market. The shares rose 42p to 346p.

Turnover rose 13 per cent to £1.1 billion, mainly due to significantly higher sales of Zovirax, the anti-viral drug used in the treatment of herpes. Sales of Zovirax rose £55 million to £160 million.

The much-increased sales of Zovirax caused pretax profits to rise 35 per cent to £169 million. The Coopers Animal

Health group of companies also helped by turning last year's £9.7 million loss into a £5.3 million profit.

A final dividend of 2p was declared to give a total for the year of 2.81p net.

Sales of Retrovir, the AIDS drug, were £16 million. Since British approval for Retrovir in March, its first approval in the world, it now has product licences in 33 countries and the drug is being sold all over Europe.

In anticipation of an explosion in demand, Wellcome has greatly expanded its manufacturing capacity and has built up stocks of Retrovir. However, Wellcome's chairman, Mr Alfred Sheppard, said that he expected to secure a higher level of profit from Retrovir this year but he was unwilling to put a figure on the sales.

He said that Wellcome had spent £17 million in Britain and \$10 million (£5.7 million) in the US expanding manufacturing

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tempos, page 26

Capital adequacy
key to the crash

By Colin Narborough

Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, yesterday said capital adequacy would be a key issue in inquiries by the regulatory authorities here and abroad into the crash on the world's stock markets.

In remarks to a London symposium organized by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, he said that after the top-level inquiry launched into the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, a number of commissions were likely to be set up in the United States and in other main financial centres.

The response of SIB, the chief watchdog for the new City regulatory framework, would be "reactive", he said.



Major question: Sir Kenneth

CBI fears
rise in
power cost

By Edward Townsend

Industrial Correspondent
Increases in electricity prices now under discussion could add more than £1 billion a year to business costs, Mr John Banham, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, said.

Mr Banham's comments follow the strong condemnation of power price increases at last week's annual conference of the CBI in Glasgow.

He said he had been reassured by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, this week that the Government did not intend higher charges to be passed on to high energy consumers. However that still left important questions. Mr Banham was addressing the electricity industry's national joint co-ordinating council in London.

British Gas could be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission over its pricing for industrial users, Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, said yesterday in Innsbruck, Austria, after addressing the annual convention of the Association of British Travel Agents.

Powerful case, page 30

NatWest and Barclays reduce mortgage rates

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The two largest mortgage lenders among the high street banks, National Westminster and Barclays, yesterday cut their mortgage rates by up to 1 per cent in response to the recent fall in interest rates. Other clearing banks are likely to follow suit in the next few days.

NatWest dropped its home loan rate by one percentage point from 11.25 per cent to

10.25 per cent, effective immediately for new borrowers and from December 1 for existing borrowers. Barclays is cutting its rates for new and existing borrowers from December 1 by 0.95 per cent to 10.3 per cent.

A 1 per cent cut in mortgage rates means a monthly saving of around £15 on a £30,000 mortgage net of basic rate tax relief, with repayments each

month dropping from £226.35 to £211.54.

With more than £5 billion on loan to 160,000 home buyers, NatWest is the largest mortgage lender among the banks, although Barclays is not far behind with £4.5 billion. Mr Roger Flemington, general manager of NatWest's domestic banking division, said: "By moving today we are ensuring that customers will receive the benefit of the lower

repayments in time for Christmas."

The Household Mortgage Corporation, one of the handful of specialist home loan companies, also announced a cut of 0.75 per cent to 10.15 per cent, with effect from January 1 for all borrowers.

The mortgage rate cuts come a week after Halifax and Abbey National, Britain's two largest building societies, cut their rates by 1 per cent.

New signature
on Bank of
England notes

The Bank of England announced yesterday that Mr David Somerset, whose signature appears on all English banknotes in circulation, is retiring as Chief Cashier of the Bank on March 1, 1988. He will be replaced by Mr Malcolm Gill, aged 53, who is head of the Bank's foreign exchange division.

Mr Somerset has held the position of Chief Cashier and chief of the banking department at the Bank since 1982. Mr Gill's signature will not start appearing on banknotes until early in March next year, the Bank said.

Mr Gill is being succeeded by Mr Michael Foot in the foreign exchange division.

Investors are attracted by 'a company of the future'

City poised to back Eurotunnel

By Michael Tate

The City is today expected to tell the Eurotunnel operators that it will secure the remaining cash needed to finance the building of the Channel tunnel. Institutional investors will commit themselves verbally to underwriting the £350 million expected to be sought in Britain, prior to signing on the dotted line on Monday.

Two factors are likely to have swayed waverers. The first is the apparent enthusiasm for the issue by individual investors, as measured by a survey published yesterday; the second is the sharp recovery in share prices and market sentiment generally in the latter part of the week.

According to the survey, conducted on Thursday and Friday last week, some 574,000 small investors, or 1.4 per cent of the population, are "certain to buy" Eurotunnel shares. A further 2.87 million, or 7 per cent, are "likely to buy", the survey, undertaken by Eurotunnel adviser Dewe Rogerson, adds.

However, investors' priorities appear to be different this time. Recent privatization probes have suggested that for many applicants the main priority

has been to make a quick profit. But the main reasons cited for investing in Eurotunnel are enthusiasm for the Channel tunnel project in principle and the prospect of investing in "a company of the future".

The survey's findings appear to be backed by the experience of the Eurotunnel share information office, which has received more than 550,000 inquiries, more than any other flotation except TSB, British Gas and BP. And yet Eurotunnel is attempting to raise far less than any of these three.

Past experience suggests that between 40 and 50 per cent of those who register with the office can be expected to invest. However, private investors are unlikely to be allotted much more than half the shares available to the British market, at best some £200 million of shares.

But if the survey's findings are correct, and the average investment is £1,000, private investors alone will be putting up close to £600 million.

Assuming that the international market takes around £70 million of the total £770 million issue - and that was going smoothly yesterday, despite the withdrawal of Canadian broker Wood Gundy

from the underwriting, after its horrendous losses on the BP issue - the British market will have only £350 million to play with. And SG Warburg, the merchant bank handling the issue, has promised between £100 million and £170 million in firm placings with the institutions.

It remains one of the paradoxes of this issue that the more the institutions ask for, the less is likely to be made available to them. This is because institutional support has grown in response to evidence of popularity with the public. But servicing the public requirement comes first. If the issue is oversubscribed, investors' names will go into the hat.

It is the perks - the company will offer a free trip to the Continent every year for 10 years for each £1,750 invested - that will be used to sell the shares over the offer period that begins with the publication of the prospectus on Wednesday.

1929 vs 1987

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TD 11 87

STOCK MARKET

Index jumps as recovery continues

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

Share prices rose in London for the third consecutive trading session yesterday, a feat that would have looked impossible on Monday when the general mood was one of gloom and despondency.

Market-makers opened share prices higher at the outset, paying further heed to the positive assessment of the market given by Mr Ian Harwood, equity economist at Warburg Securities, the securities house, on Wednesday.

Thereafter, prices continued to rise as institutions picked up cheap stock. News of the better-than-expected US trade figures, hopes of an imminent statement on reducing the American trade deficit, and a

There is no sign of a recession at Blue Arrow. That was the message to fund managers at a County NatWest seminar yesterday. The group still earns 65 per cent of its profits outside the US. Tony Berry, chairman, has forecast £20 million for the year just ended.

crop of impressive corporate results set the seal on the market's recovery.

Dealers were able to sit back and witness, somewhat contentedly, a rise of 84.3 points on the FT-SE 100 index at about 3pm and an early gain yesterday of more than 40 points in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street.

Prices, however, did boil over with some operators taking profits before the close of business. The FT-SE 100 index eventually closed the session 63.2 points higher at 1,702.5, for a three-day recovery of 137.3. The FT index of 30 shares closed 38.8 up at 1,328.8.

Dollar-earners were again in the vanguard of the advance.

Imperial Chemical Industries rose by 62p to £11.08. Glaxo recovered a further 70p at £11.13 and BAT advanced 20p to 465p.

Gifts proved volatile, replacing early falls of 1/2 with gains ranging to nearly 1/4. The recovery owed much to revived interest rate optimism.

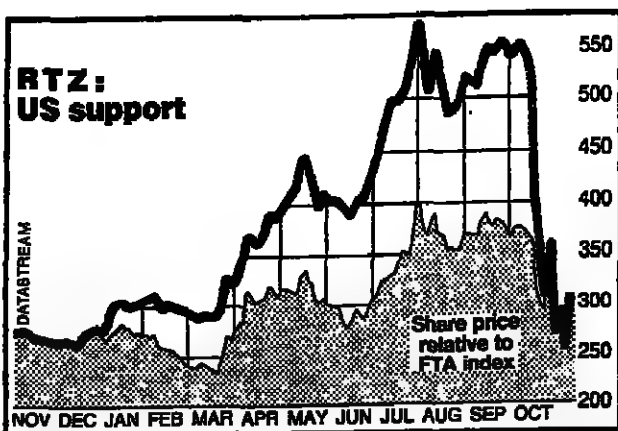
RTZ, the mining finance house, ran into a few cheap buyers to end the day 37p higher at 310p — for a two-day rise of 57p — as more than 4 million shares changed hands. RTZ has been one of the worst performers among the top 100 shares during the past few weeks but went some way to repairing the damage yesterday.

The shares are now considered cheap by a number of leading brokers. There were early signs of US support for the shares yesterday. The group has started to enjoy some of the benefits of a firmer copper price. Earlier this year the shares hit a peak of 580p.

Its rival, Consolidated Gold Fields, also ran into renewed support, climbing 57p to 810p. Its shares have also been hit badly by the shakeout but appear to have over-reacted to the crisis.

Some of the recent takeover favourites were up and running with Pearson, the Financial Times to Lazard Brothers merchant bank conglomerate, jumping 40p to 605p. Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International paid 920p a share for a near 15 per cent stake before the crash and hopes are now high that he will make the most of the weakness in the share price to again top up his holding.

Ranks Hovis McDougall, where Goodman Fielder owns about 20 per cent of the shares, firmed 10p to 295p. Dealers are now hoping Goodman might contemplate mak-



ing a full bid for the rest of the shares.

Hopes of increased pre-Christmas consumer spending as a result of the reduction in clearing bank mortgage rates and the belief that this will soon be followed by a further cut in base lending rates to 8.5 per cent gave the leading retailers a fillip.

Great Universal Stores 'A' jumped 42p to £11.34 and Ratners firmed 11p to 245p. Next raced up 21p to 289p. Mr Zak Keshavjee, stores analyst

at Savory Mill, the broker, is keen on Next. The company is trading strongly, high street sales are up 30 per cent and the mail order business is also performing well.

Storehouse, the BHS, Habitat Mothercare, Richards and Heal's group headed by Sir Terence Conran, jumped 16p to 258p, after 263p, as nearly 5 million shares changed hands.

News that the audacious all-paper offer from Benlox, the mini-industrial conglomerate, had been given the green light

by the Monopolies Commission induced early speculative support, but the later announcement that Mr Norman Parkinson, the ex-Woolworth director, had joined forces with Benlox, and would be appointed managing director of Storehouse if the bid is successful, gave the rise fresh impetus.

Buyers also came for Benlox on the view that Mr Parkinson's appointment strengthens its bid position and the shares closed with a rise of 17p at 55p, after 61p.

Prior to the Benlox offer, Sir Terence Conran rejected a 445p cash offer from Mounleigh, the property group run by Mr Tony Clegg.

Sykes-Pickavant, a Lancashire-based hand tools manufacturer which has its origins in the 1920s as a supplier of accessories and components for the Model T Ford, made a confident start on the Unlisted Securities Market.

The shares, placed at 114p by Albert E Sharp, the broker, opened at 115p and improved steadily to close at 120p, for an opening premium of 6p.

Control Securities, the property to leisure company headed by Mr Nazmu Virani, whose price collapsed from the 125p level to 30p at one time during the market crash, was showing signs of a strong recovery yesterday, closing 5p higher at 47.5p.

Mr Virani turned the company round from a troubled fourth division property into a healthy big league player in the space of about 20 months via a series of deals through which he swapped equity stakes for property portfolios. As a result of those deals, sizeable stakes are held in Control by Heron Corporation (4.9 per cent), Mounleigh (8 per cent) and London & Edinburgh Trust (5.6 per cent).

Control last week revealed

interim results with a turnover of £8 million against £10.9 million with pretax profits up from £1 million to £1.5 million. While Mr Virani said he hoped to restore dividend payments by the end of the year.

However, whispers in the market yesterday suggested that a bid for the group was on the way.

Control's big-name stake holders, Mr Gerald Ronson and Mr Tony Clegg, not happy at seeing the value of their stake fall so sharply, were looking for a way out.

The word is that the exit door has been opened by Mr John Duggan's Phoenix Properties & Finance which has made an approach to them for their stakes and is on the verge

of launching a full-scale cash offer of 80p per share for the rest. Phoenix closed 13p higher at 100p.

Marina Development, the USM-listed boating and leisure company, which soared to 700p after it was boarded by a concert party, including Local London Group in June who bought control from Mr Robin Aisher, the yachtman, and others for 125p per share, rebounded 65p to 278p.

The market's collapse hit speculative favourites like Marina the hardest, but recently Mr David Heilmann, the chairman, reassured shareholders that the company was in good shape, adding that "we have net cash in the bank and that is not a bad position to be in."

Control last week revealed

TEMPUS

Dual strength Wellcome

It is practically impossible to discuss Wellcome without the discussion being taken over, willy-nilly, by the subject of Aids.

But if it is Aids sentiment which is driving the share price, last year's results have shown that it is the anti-viral Zovirax which is propelling profits forward.

Zovirax, the treatment for herpes launched in 1983, is the first of Wellcome's drugs to exceed \$100 million (£37 million) of sales in the United States. Total world sales of Zovirax last year increased by a half to £160 million, taking it to 14 per cent of turnover.

In its various formulations, the drug is penetrating the market on a broad front, increasing both its territories and the range of conditions for which it has approval. It can be used intravenously, directly on the skin as an ointment for instance for cold sores, or taken in oral form.

One difficulty in forecasting the potential market for Zovirax is the unreliability of figures for the incidence of herpes genitalis. Estimates range from 5 million to 20 million. Another is that it is also proving effective against other viral infections such as shingles. It may also prove efficacious used in combination with Retrovir in the treatment of Aids.

But it is the Aids drug, Retrovir, that lies behind Wellcome's phenomenal market rating. Last year, sales were just £16 million, and profits were negligible, but with no real alternative Aids treatment available, and the prospect of a vaccine as distant as ever, the potential is clearly vast, and apparently growing all the time.

It is in recognition of this that Wellcome has created stockpiles of the drug in the United Kingdom and the US and significantly stepped up its manufacturing capability.

Analysts are looking for pretax profits this year to rise to about £210 million. Despite a 37 per cent fall in the Wellcome share price in the last four weeks, the prospective multiple is still 23. There is no rush to buy.

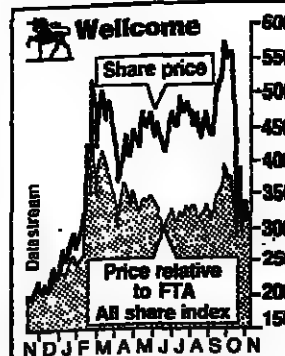
BOC on lookout

The BOC Group sent out two distinct signals yesterday, the net effect of which was to see its share price — a heavy casualty in the Great Crash — bounce like a ball.

They were in the 19 per cent year-on-year dividend increase, which infers that management is confident that earnings are sustainable; and that it has been shrewd enough to cover itself on the currency front.

Frights about dollar exposure saw BOC heavily penalised in recent weeks. Had BOC adopted a forward cover policy in the year ended September 30, then results would have been £16 million higher.

So now that the air has been cleared about exchange movement worries, analysts have warmed once again to



Royal

Royal's third quarter profits undershot analysts' expectations and the shares eased 10p to 378p.

Royal's greater exposure to the United States helped profits power ahead of the competition last year, but is now proving something of a brake. Third quarter US profits fell to £33.4 million from £48.6 million, because of property and weather losses and some hefty reserving on workers' compensation and general liability business.

Rate rises on the highly profitable commercial multi-peril lines are coming to an end, but still rose 8 per cent in the third quarter. The dollar's weakening contributed to a £9.3 million adverse currency movement.

In the United Kingdom Royal has already clocked up £80 million of weather losses from last winter and expects to pay out a further £80 million in the fourth quarter as a result of October's storms. It has virtually no reinsurance cover on its weather losses.

Solvency was down to 54 per cent two days ago due to the stock market fall, but remains very comfortable.

Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, is shaving back its full-year forecasts to £325 million this year and £500 million next year on dollar considerations. The shares are still only trading on five times next year's earnings. With an asset backing of £32p per share and expectations of a continued generous dividend policy, Royal looks seriously undervalued.

The year ended September, with pretax profits up from £213.4 million to £263.2 million, was not without pain. Superficially disappointing were the results of the health care division — virtually flat at the operating level, though 12 per cent up adjusting for currencies — but offset by an improved performance from gases and related products.

One positive influence on BOC will be the eventual disposal of the US carbon business, which managed a £16 million profit last year. Meanwhile at 356p yesterday, up from 333p, and offering a price earnings ratio of 8.9, BOC is stepping back into favour.

Bank of Ireland up £18m

By Richard Thomson

Banking Correspondent

Bank of Ireland yesterday announced a sharp increase in interim pretax profits of £20 million (£18 million), from £39.3 million to £59.3 million, despite an extraordinary provision of £23 million against loan losses in Latin America.

The increase to end-September was from a strong performance in treasury projects and the group's expanded operations in Britain. Particularly sharp rises occurred in Bank of Ireland Home Mortgage, the United Kingdom home loans subsidiary, where income surged to £29 million (£11m).

Bank of Ireland loans to Latin America amounted to about £100 million and the extra provision brought loan loss cover up to 28 per cent.

There is an interim dividend of 4p compared with 3p last year, and the group expects to pay a final dividend of 11.75p.



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TF 14/11/87

Higher oil price helps push BP and Royal Dutch ahead

By Carol Ferguson
British Petroleum and the Royal Dutch/Shell Group both reported improved third quarter results yesterday. BP's operating profit rose 18 per cent to £574 million, while Shell's net income rose 17 per cent to £647 million (in both cases excluding stock profits and losses).

The higher oil price in the third quarter had a beneficial effect on the oil production end of both companies, which outweighed its adverse effect on refining and marketing.

In BP's first results since the Government's ill-starred share sale last month, a significantly higher tax charge of

£199 million compared with a small tax credit last year eliminated most of the gains at the earnings level and earnings per share were virtually unchanged at 6.4p compared with 6.3p last year.

The group generated £3.3 billion of cash from operations in the nine-month period. However the purchase of the minority in Standard Oil, when added to capital expenditure and the payment of dividends, meant there was a cash deficit of £4 billion which was met by an increase in net debt.

Mr Peter Walters, BP's chairman, told staff recently that the balance sheet and cash

flow continued to strengthen, helped by £1.5 billion of new equity.

He said he was disappointed that the share sale had been caught up in the market turbulence, but BP remained the same strong company, and there was no reason to modify the profit forecast in the prospective.

The Royal Dutch/Shell group saw its exploration and production earnings increase by 190 per cent to £409 million in the third quarter compared with the same quarter last year. The biggest increase was in the US where the group went from a loss of

£2 million to a profit of £131 million. The main reason was higher crude prices — US domestic crude prices rose 60 per cent quarter on quarter — but lower exploration write-offs also contributed.

Manufacturing profits however were sharply reduced, despite higher sales volumes, as the company was not able to pass higher crude costs on fully to its customers.

The company said the outlook for crude oil prices is uncertain and continues to depend on whether world supply is restrained to match demand.

Thames TV rises 17.6% to £12m

By Lawrence Lever

Thames Television, Britain's largest commercial television company, reports a 17.6 per cent increase in pretax profits for the six months to September 30 — up from £10.2 million to £12 million. Turnover was £118 million, a 13.1 per cent increase on the corresponding half last year.

Net advertising revenue was £104 million, a 16 per cent share of network advertising revenue. This is a slight decline on the 16.3 per cent in the first half of last year but marginally up on Thames's percentage share for the year.

Mr Richard Dunn, managing director, described the advertising results for the half year as "encouraging".

Thames is introducing a new rate card on January 4 which it says will be "highly competitive". Some advertisers have chosen to use its rival, London Weekend Television, because they consider Thames too expensive. Mr Dunn said he was "pretty enthusiastic" about advertising revenues for 1988.

Profits before Exchequer Levy were up from £15.1 million to £18.1 million. Earnings per share increased to 15.76p (13.32p) and the company has lifted the interim dividend by 10 per cent to 4.40p.

Sir Ian Trethowan, in his first report as chairman, points to signs of a slowdown in the growth of television advertising generally and the possibility that it could be vulnerable to any slackening of economic activity consequent upon the recent stock market crash.

He says, however, that the company is "confident" full-year results will be higher than last year.

Mr Dunn said Thames was to increase its stake in Astra, the 16-channel satellite service based in Luxembourg, from 5 per cent to 10 per cent. Thames paid £3.7 million for its stake at the beginning of last year.

Overseas sales increased by 20 per cent to just under £9.5 million and profits on these were £3.6 million, before Exchequer Levy.

Mr Dunn said he was "pleased" with the audiences attracted by Thames's move into all-night television, which was started in June. The company's annual expenditure on all-night television is likely to be about £2 million.

Thames is also considering converting its popular TV series "The Bill" into a bi-weekly drama series.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Bank rethinks to cope with fragile new world

The delicate state of equilibrium I described here on Wednesday has been broken by a surge in stock prices in all the big centres. But nothing has basically changed: the markets are still fragile. How fragile is demonstrated by the fact that yesterday's bounce in prices is based on a US trade deficit which, at \$14 billion, was \$3 billion better than some forecasts. But let us be thankful for small mercies.

Inevitably, because of the recent collapse in world markets, the Bank of England has had to turn its main economic concerns on their head. The latest *Quarterly Bulletin* portrays the Bank struggling with its monetary dilemma. Britain's internationally high interest rates looked idiotic when the Bank was piling up reserves in an attempt to keep the pound down against the dollar and ultimately, by devious routes, against the mark.

At the same time, domestic monetary expansion was getting out of hand, whether judged by share and house prices or the trade deficit. It needed to be reined in. And the exchange of pounds for dollars through intervention would have to be sterilized by gilt-edged sales if it were not to add to monetary expansion.

The crash resolved this dilemma overnight. It is now safe to turn on the monetary tap because wealth, purchasing power and (unmeasurable) confidence have been disappearing even faster down the market plughole.

The Bank can now afford to be more open about its previous fears that the economy was overheating. They were evidently strong. On this thinking, the market fall was a good thing. It is just a pity that things have gone so far and so fast.

The Bank's prescriptions for sorting out the mess are sensible, as might be expected. They point to cuts in the US budget deficit as the essential prerequisite for "a balanced international programme" which would principally involve West Germany taking more active steps to cut taxes and improve its sluggish growth rate. If the White House and Congress come up with anything resembling a satisfactory budget package, the heat would evidently be turned on the West Germans from all directions.

The assumption in all this, however, is that Britain is in the middle of this new balance and does not need to make any adjustments apart from those consequential on possible interest rate cuts elsewhere. This may well be true. But it cannot be stated with too much confidence when the previous position is now revealed as unstable, with monetary policy unable to cope.

It is highly optimistic to assume the

right choices will be made at the right time rather than, as seems more likely, lagging behind events. The Bank and the Treasury should, therefore, be thinking out what Britain and Europe as a whole will have to do if the sensible economic answers to financial instability are not forthcoming.

No longer in play

The reverse side of the world stock market crash is that good shares become cheaper. The last few weeks have brought a spate of stakebuilding for widely differing reasons, ranging from the sound to the speculative.

The foolish, or the bravest, according to taste, were the buyers like Australian John Spalvins' company, Adelaide Steamship, which moved in quickly during the very first days of the slide in mid-October. Those days have proved to be a trap of the most wounding kind. For the falls of October 19 and the few days that followed have proved not to be a window of opportunity in a raging bull market.

Others who have made considerable profits from trading large blocks of stock, like Alan Bond, showed a better sense of timing. His operations in shares of Allied Lyons have not yet been fully disclosed and it is too soon to judge.

Apart from speculators, there have been a number of probably timely moves to use the crash as a means of consolidating trade investments. Into this category come the additions by the large US insurance group Coroon & Black to its investment in the Minet group and the buying of Cadbury shares by General Cinema. Elders IXL, the Foster's Lager group, has expressly ruled out a bid for Greene King, despite the purchase of a 13 per cent interest. The Australian company Goodman Fielder has taken its holding to almost 30 per cent of Ranks Hovis McDougall and is clearly there for the long haul.

Sir Philip Harris, adding to holdings in his Harris Queensway group, and the Hammerson property group buying in its own shares, are telling the world that they think the worst of the crash is over.

Some of these moves, like Adsteam's may have the perverse effect of depressing the price of the target company shares. They have produced sizeable losses. The prospect of a fire sale at some time in the future may overhang the market. Others, like Elders's interest in Greene King, will put a "raiders' floor" beneath the brewing company's share price.

Such contradictory messages arising from the block traders suggest that, for the time being, companies raided by large share buyers are by no means automatically "in play".

Yale and Valor has faith in US

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Michael Montague, whose Valor heaters and cooker group trebled its size with its summer takeover of the US Yale lockmaker and NuTone electrical appliance company, has no fears about a US recession rocking his "once in a lifetime" acquisitions.

"Both companies have come through recessions before and thrived," he said yesterday.

Mr Montague was announcing first-half profits of the group — now called Yale and Valor — of £12.09 million. For the same period the old Valor business made £3.51 million. The current trading period includes three months contribution from Yale and NuTone, whose profits showed an increase of 9 per cent.

Shareholders collect an interim dividend of 1.8p a share compared with 1.52p last time.

Mr Montague — who re-

mains on the lookout for more acquisitions — says the weakness in the dollar is unlikely to have any impact on the new operations in the US.

"These businesses trade in the United States and are not exposed to any weakness in the dollar, although we have now decided to start manufacturing some products in America which we previously bought in from Taiwan."

He said: "Both Yale and NuTone have experienced earlier recessions, the last in 1982."

In Britain, the cool autumn is boosting demand for its range of gas fires, which have gained record market shares.

The flamboyant chairman tells shareholders: "If the doom scenario which the stock market could fuel comes into being we are going to take a positive approach, and believe there are as many opportunities in this situation as there might be problems."



Positive approach: Michael Montague, company chairman

Former Woolworth chief joins Benlox

By Our City Staff

Benlox, the tiny engineering group, has enlisted the help of a former top executive of Woolworth in its uphill takeover battle for Storehouse, the Mothercare, Habitat and BHS chain.

Mr Malcolm Parkinson, aged 42, who took over as chief executive of Woolworth in July last year and abruptly resigned earlier this month over a policy clash, will become managing director of Storehouse if the bid succeeds. He is joining the Benlox board later this month.

Yesterday Mr Parkinson was coy about the precise role

he would play at Storehouse. "All will be revealed in due course."

"I resigned from Woolworth on a matter of principle and had no other plans, although I was inundated with offers. Then 36 hours ago I was approached to take on this job. It is a terrific opportunity. I firmly believe that Storehouse should, as Benlox plans, be broken up to allow the management some oxygen."

Sir Terence Conran, Storehouse chairman, is looking for a new retailing chief to succeed Mr Denis Cassidy, who resigned two months ago.

'No immediate bid for Greene King'

By Our City Staff

Greene King, the East Anglian brewer, gained a breathing space last night when Elders IXL, the Australian conglomerate, which produces Foster's Lager, dampened immediate takeover speculation.

Elders said it had no intention of making a bid for Greene King, in which it has lifted its stake to more than 13 per cent over the past month, and would not contemplate doing so over the next six months "in the absence of a material change in the circumstances of that company."

The statement followed

intervention by the Takeover Panel which had asked Elders to clarify its bid intentions.

Elders has been keen to sell Foster's Lager through Greene King's chain of 600 public houses. But the East Anglian brewer, which has a 25 per cent stake in the Harp Lager consortium, is not interested.

Mr Simon Redman, managing director of Greene King, said: "The position is a little more reassuring and allows us to get on with the job of running the brewery although we still do not know what their long-term intentions are."

NAB rises 8% despite higher taxes

From Richard Battley

National Australia Bank boasted a surprisingly healthy profit of Aus\$328.01 million (£125.8 million) for the year ending September 30, despite paying higher taxes and almost doubling its bad debt provisions, which included an inaugural Third World component.

The profit was 8 per cent higher than 1985-86 and a result "with which I am almost satisfied", NAB managing director Mr Nobby Clark said yesterday.

Directors declared a fully franked annual dividend of 24.75 cents, 0.74 of a cent more than the previous year, after adjusting for the group's recent one-for-five rights issue to fund the Aus\$1.06 billion purchase of the Clydesdale and Northern banks in Scotland and Ireland.

Acquired post-balance date, those banks would make a material contribution to profit this financial year, Mr Clark said.

It was the sixth successive annual increase for NAB, and above most analysts' expecta-

tions. It contrasted impressively with its recent 33 per cent profit slump of the Commonwealth, one of the other Big Four banks. NAB shares jumped 25 cents on the announcement to Aus\$4.35.

The bad debt provision of Aus\$200.3 million, up from Aus\$104.7 million, was merely prudent given the economic climate, Mr Clark said.

On the Third World debt provision of Aus\$34 million, he said it was time for the bank to cover its loan exposure, mainly to Brazil and Mexico, in line with big

overseas banks. Its total Third World loans were a relatively small Aus\$230 million, less than 0.5 per cent of group assets.

NAB wrote off Aus\$91.85 million in bad debts, up sharply from Aus\$68.95 million last year.

NAB's gross income rose 13.8 per cent to Aus\$5.98 billion while net interest income was Aus\$1.35 billion, up 21.5 per cent.

Taxes rose to Aus\$276.45 million from Aus\$195.58 million. Earnings per share were down slightly at 67.4 cents

From Oz without love

Far from worrying too much, we may not be worrying enough about the mounting costs to British taxpayers of the Government's failed two-year battle in Australia's courts to stop Heinemann publishing *Spycatcher*, the spy memoirs of former secret agent Peter Wright. For in addition to meeting Heinemann's legal costs, the Government faces another, equally daunting bill: Heinemann — part of the Paul Hamlyn publishing empire recently taken over by Reed — is also totting up the costs of the financial damage it has suffered by not being able to publish or distribute Wright's book in Britain. "If you injunct someone, you have to give an undertaking to the court that, if that person loses out as a result of the injunction, you will make good the damage," a spokesman for Heinemann Australia tells me. "People in Britain do not seem to realize that if the British Government fails in its appeal to the Australian High Court next year, we will be claiming not only for our legal costs in the case but also for the damage and lost profits caused by the flood of American editions of *Spycatcher* that has poured into Britain. Maybe 100,000 or 200,000 copies of the US Viking edition published by Penguin — from which we only get a royalty — came into Britain which might not otherwise have done had we been allowed to distribute our own books. This is an invasion of

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

José's book of fortune

Anyone who has given up relying on forecasters to predict where the stock market is going might like to roll up to Sotheby's on November 26 and bid for a 300-year-old book on the joys and heartaches of share dealing, one of the earliest tomes on the subject. Its author, José Vega, was a Portuguese Jew who lived in Antwerp and wrote philosophical works. As a diversion from musing on the

meaning of life, the causes of happiness, and the likely winner of the 230 at Bruges, Vega speculated on the Amsterdam stock exchange, losing and winning back his fortune some five times in all. His description of life on the bourse in 1688 contains details of many practices still in use today, such as share options. The book is tipped to fetch up to £2,000. Its durable title? *Confusion de Confusions*.

Racing finish

I hear former Alroyd & Smithers property jobber Richard Moore will have more time to spend racing his beloved greyhounds in Southend-on-Sea after his abrupt departure on Wednesday as head of market-making at stockbroker Shearson Lehman Mottel. "We had philosophical differences," says Peter Rawlings, Shearson's head of equities, "and we agreed to separate." Mr Rawlings, warning against reading anything sinister into the sudden separation, adds: "We had a profitable month in market-making in October." In a period when the stock market sank by a third, and bets were being placed in the City on which broker might be next to retire hurt from market-making, that would usually count as grounds for promotion.



"Personally, I think it's a grizzly bear market"

Curtain up on Astica

Nearly 5 million hires of Bulgarian lager will flow through Britain's off-licences in the next five years as part-payment for the manufacture and installation of high-tech Rank Xerox copiers in Bulgarian offices and factories. In a clever countertrade deal, Rank Xerox's British arm has gained a toehold in the Eastern bloc by selling to the Communist country's PDS manufacturing facility the right to produce its copiers and laser printers. "We are confidently looking for a leap in business with Bulgaria from a current annual rate of £1.5 million to £5 million in 1988," says Rank Xerox's Jan Bielak, the reciprocal trading director. PDS, whose bosses are painfully short of foreign exchange to fund imports, is paying for the Xerox business largely with its Marita typewriters, being marketed by Xerox through Triumph Adler, and Astica Lager, a strong brew that will cost 59p a can in Britain. It is Bulgaria's leading brand and was "potentially a good proposition" says Bielak. The deal involves Xerox taking 600,000, 24-can cases of Astica in the first five years of the arrangement. Does Astica excite the parts other beers don't? "It's just like any other lager," a Rank Xerox gourmet tells me.

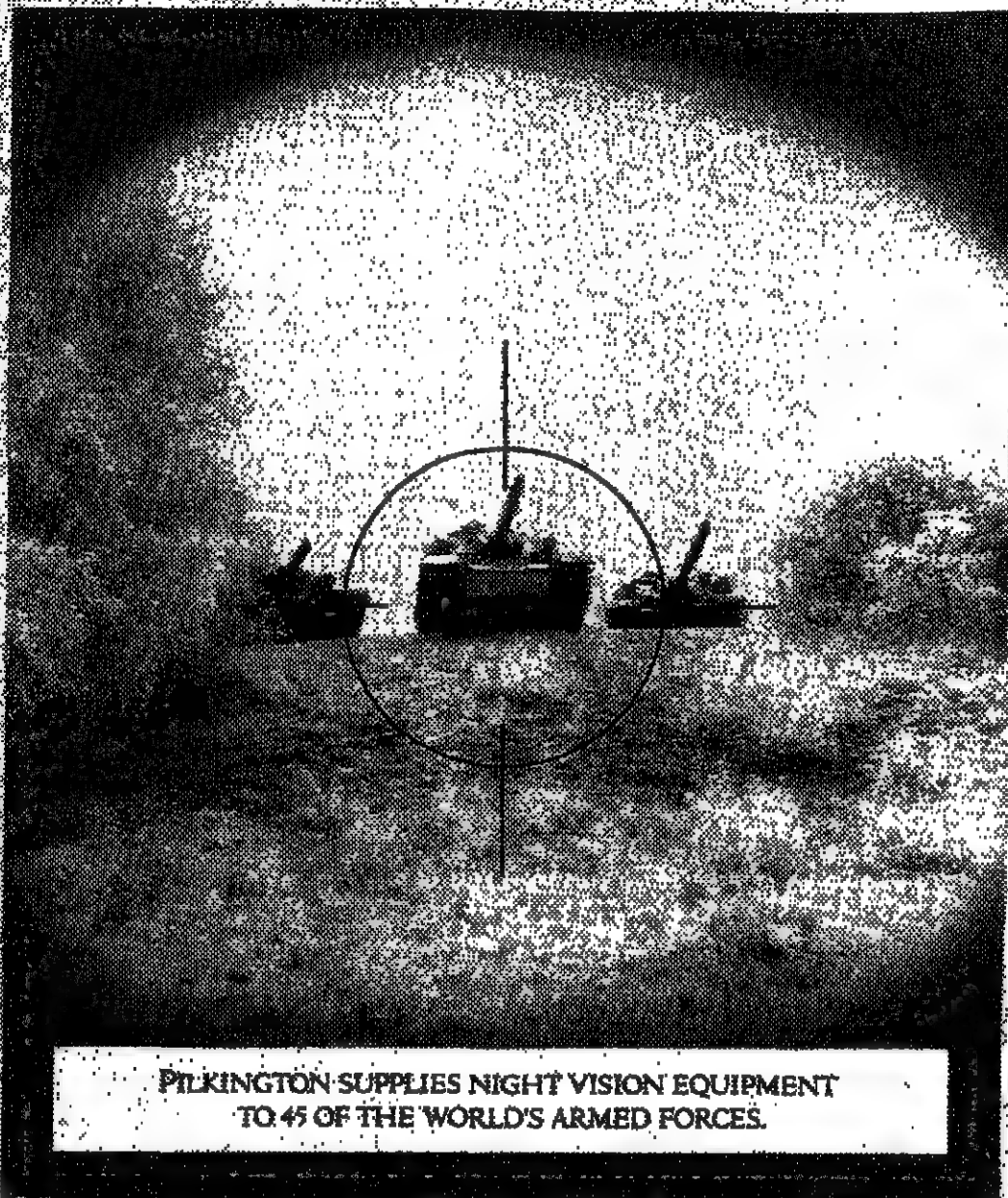
● PSBR, which once stood for Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, has been given a new meaning. I am told that it now stands for Porsche Sold Because Redundant.

Joe Joseph



Find out who's won on November 18th.

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Oxford hit by scanner slump

By Michael Tate

The forecast slump in world orders for body scanners has, as expected, left a big hole in the profits of Oxford Instruments, maker of the scanner's magnetic heart.

Pretax profits in the six months to end-September slumped from £8.51 million to £4.58 million, as turnover dropped from £47.79 million to £38.4 million.

The entire shortfall is blamed on the slump in demand for magnetic resonance imaging systems, the technical name for scanners, from the world's health authorities. MRI contribution to Oxford profits was "positive, but only just," said Mr Peter Williams, chief executive, yesterday.

Fortunately, Oxford's heavy investment on non-MRI research and development is paying off just at the right time. Non-MRI business saw a 40 per cent underlying growth in profits, Mr Williams said. MRI magnets now account for a little more than a third of group turnover.

Sir Austin Pearce, chairman, expects improved trading performance in the second half. But the City does not expect Oxford to make much more than £12 million for the year, against £19.65 million.

Meanwhile the board is demonstrating its confidence by lifting the interim dividend from 0.8p to 0.9p.

Expanding Tie Rack suits the City with 77% profits rise

By John Bell
City Editor

Mr Roy Bishko, the brains behind the fast growing Tie Rack chain, has a new ambition. "We want to be known as the McDonald's of the clothing business," he said yesterday. "I admire the way they use lights, design and colour to create excitement in their shops. I would like to market ties like they market hamburgers."

For the time being though, Mr Bishko is doing extremely well selling ties, scarves and other clothing accessories his way.

The City yesterday thought highly of Tie Rack's first profits statement since it went public in a blaze of publicity last summer. The shares sprinted 20p to 114p on news of a 77 per cent increase in half time profits to £281,000. Turnover also reflected the group's rapid store opening programme, rising 63 per cent to £9.5 million.

Tie Rack's flotation caught the high point of the new issue boom earlier this year with speculative investors clamouring to buy what they all saw as the latest hot stock.

The result was one to make the promoters of Eurotunnel, by no means home and dry yet on a £300 million London fund raising, green with envy. Tie Rack attracted more than



Food for thought: Roy Bishko's new ambition is to be the McDonald's of the clothes world

£1 billion worth of applications for its £12.5 million equity issue.

As in all speculative share bubbles, the enthusiasm was

overdone. Tie Rack shares, rated on a stratospheric 50 times earnings at the peak 200p share price, suffered badly since the crash dropping to just 92p. But if the expectations were excessively high, they were by no means unsoundly based.

For Mr Bishko's business requires only modest capital, generates funds for further expansion through franchising as it goes along, and is enjoying a warm welcome from shopping centre developers seeking a bright, attrac-

strong position to expand rapidly at home, in Europe and North America, said Mr Bishko. He is especially bullish about the US and Canada.

"The reception for things like English ties and Scottish woollen scarves is tremendous over there. And by dealing direct with the manufacturers we are reducing the selling prices some way below our competitors," he added.

Mr Bishko bought out the former partners in Tie Rack Canada which has now become a fully-owned subsidiary.

The management team is also being beefed up in order to cope with the expansion plans. Mr Neil Farley, a former marketing director of Next Retail, has been appointed managing director of the group's British operations.

Trading is going well in the second half year, when the bulk of annual profits are generated. Turnover and profits are substantially above last year's levels, Mr Bishko said.

Shareholders who staged the issue and endured the vertigo when the shares climbed to their peaks do not hold Tie Rack for income. Nevertheless Mr Bishko announced a maiden interim dividend of 0.365p a share yesterday.

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But we do claim to give excellent value for money for three reasons. We encourage and reward the careful household. We gear the policy to individual needs so you don't pay for something you don't want. At the same time we make sure you're well and truly covered.

You Get More Than You Bargained For

HomeShield covers - losses at replacement prices, personal possessions away from home, accidental damage to personal computers, TV's, hi-fi. It even replaces broken windows. And much more. HomeShield is a total package, completely thought through.

Check this list and compare HomeShield with your present policy.

Does your policy pay your losses at replacement prices? HomeShield does - contents claims are settled on a new for old basis except for clothing and household linen.

Does your policy reward you for being security conscious? HomeShield does - with premium discounts of up to 15% for approved burglar alarms and 5% for membership of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

Does your policy offer you further discounts? HomeShield does - if you choose to pay the first part of each claim you can save up to another 15% off your premiums.

Does your policy offer you a FREE Legal Advice Service? HomeShield does - instant telephone help and advice on any personal legal problem.

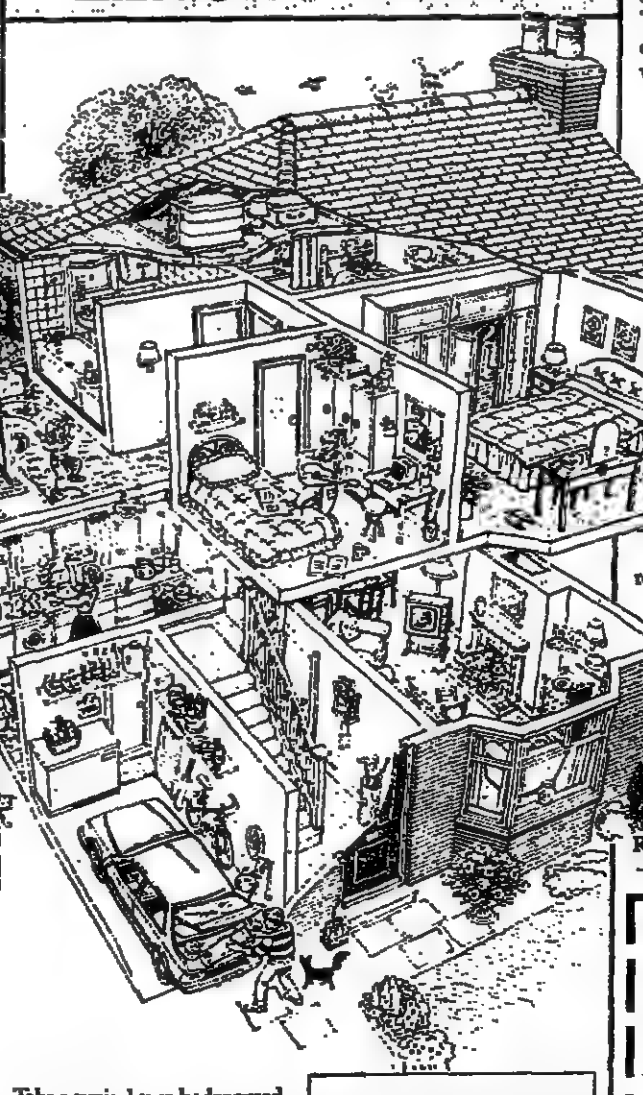
Does your policy include cover for your personal possessions even when away from home? HomeShield does - wide cover for things like sports equipment, cameras, watches, bikes, credit cards, jewellery, even cash.

PLUS Another 1st From Royal Insurance
HOMESHIELD

24 Hour Glass Replacement Service from SOLAGLAS

HomeShield policies now include free phone access to a nationwide network of mobile units - on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to repair broken windows. It's unique to Royal HomeShield.

HOMESHIELD
PROTECTION FROM AS LITTLE AS £2.70 PER MONTH



Take a typical two bedroomed terraced house in Tonbury with Contents value of:

£10,120

Or a four bedroomed detached house in Hull with Contents value of:

£18,450

Or a three bedroomed semi-detached house in Croydon with Contents value of:

£13,630

Annual Premium £2.38 for a 5% Neighbourhood Watch Discount
OR A MONTHLY PREMIUM OF

£2.70

Annual Premium £4.57 for a 5% Burglar Alarm Discount
OR A MONTHLY PREMIUM OF

£4.56

Annual Premium £7.04 for a 5% Burglar Alarm Discount
OR A MONTHLY PREMIUM OF

£7.04

And It's From Royal Insurance

Royal Insurance is one of the world's leading and most respected insurance companies, with over 150 years experience and local offices nationwide, where you can get immediate, friendly and expert help when you need it. So you can be sure that you're in safe, reliable hands.

Free Legal Advice

Think of all the times you would like to have checked out your legal position: on your home, your neighbours, perhaps on financial, family and motoring problems. With HomeShield you are given your own personal card entitling you to instant access by telephone to a team of legal consultants. There's always an expert on call to discuss any legal problem, for example, tax prosecution, motoring offence, even a claim on a faulty washing machine. Even at weekends, or at one o'clock in the morning!

Legal Expenses Cover

With HomeShield you can now include insurance to help you with the legal costs involved in many areas of the law affecting the individual household. Full details will come with your quotation.

You Can Even Pay Your Premiums Monthly

We give you the choice of paying by cash, cheque, credit card OR BY CONVENIENT MONTHLY PREMIUMS.

ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Your personal - no obligation quotation and 'Protect Your Home' booklet!

To check your eligibility for HomeShield and to receive your HomeShield quotation, simply fill in the coupon below and return it to us FREEPOST. We'll confirm eligibility and send you your personal quotation based on the value of the Contents of your home (or let you know what additional information we might need in order to provide it) and we'll also include a comprehensive full colour booklet on protecting your home with helpful advice on home security.

SO REPLY NOW

We'll guarantee your quotation until 31st January 1988.

Remember - you don't have to sign anything or send any money now - just the coupon, it's FREEPOST you don't even need a stamp.

TO HELP US CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY AND WORK OUT YOUR HOMESHIELD QUOTATION PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- 1) Is your house built of brick or stone with a slate or tiled roof? ☐ YES ☐ NO
- 2) Is your house left unoccupied for more than 4 weeks at any one time? ☐ YES ☐ NO
- 3) Have you or any member of your household permanently residing with you:
 - a) made any claim under a household or personal possessions insurance during the last 5 years (a single claim not exceeding £1,000 may be ignored)? ☐ YES ☐ NO
 - b) been refused insurance or had special terms or conditions applied by any insurer for any of the risks you wish to insure? ☐ YES ☐ NO
 - c) been convicted of or is any prosecution pending for arson or any criminal offence (other than motoring offences)? ☐ YES ☐ NO
- 4) What do you estimate it would cost to replace your home contents?
- 5) Is your house left regularly unattended during the day? ☐ YES ☐ NO
- 6) Are you a member of an approved Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? ☐ YES ☐ NO
- 7) Is your home protected by a burglar alarm system installed and serviced regularly by a member firm of N.S.C.I.A. (National Supervisory Council for Intruder Alarms)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms. ☐ Date of Birth

Address

Postcode

(Please give us your correct postcode as we will need this to prepare your quotation)

Tel. My present policy

Day Time Home expires on

Usual Insurance adviser (if any)

If you have ticked a shaded box we may not be able to confirm eligibility or we may need additional information before a quotation can be offered.

When you have completed this coupon, pop it into an envelope and send it to: ROYAL INSURANCE HOMESHIELD, FREEPOST, LIVERPOOL L69 4BW.

HTMS0237

Royal Insurance
HOMESHIELD

This offer not available in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland

WADE
Preliminary results for the year ended 31st July 1987

- * Pre-Tax Profits a record £2,317,864
- * Dividend increased by 24% to 4.35p per share

"Your Board intends to continue the policy of developing and expanding our product range and also to search for acquisitions which would offer us additional opportunities."

Jack Johnston, Chairman

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be available on 4th December from:- The Company Secretary,

WADE POTTERIES P.L.C. - STONE-ON-TRENT
Greenhead Street, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4AA

Manufacturers of a wide range of Technical and Ornamental Ceramics

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Due to unfavourable economic situation, we are forced to close down our Showrooms at Knightsbridge and Old Bond St. Comprising of 18,000 pieces including Persian, Turkish, Pakistan, Kashmir and Antique Carpets.

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- Kashmir Bokhara Size 6 x 4 £150-
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- Persian Isfahan Size 5'-8" x 3'-8" £1250-
- Pakistan Bok Hara Size 12'-0" x 9'-0" £890-
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THE ALTERNATIVE TO DOOMSDAY
Massive uncertainty overlays the whole economic scene.

World stock markets have crashed up to 40%. Billions have been wiped off the value of shares in Britain.

Led by the dollar in free-fall, currencies are threatened - and with it everybody's way of life. Value of property, pensions, savings are all at risk.

What can we do about it?

Robson Financial Services Ltd foresaw the crash and some weeks ago began moving our clients out of stock and property into a more liquid cash situation.

With mainframe computer information from unique sources and resident experts in house, we have our fingers on the world's economic pulse minute by minute.

We have a positive programme to enable our clients to meet crisis situations as they develop affecting personal savings, pensions, investments, property, gold and other commodities, and cash liquidity. That programme can be YOURS!

Robsons are licensed credit brokers; specialising in fund management; mortgages, remortgages and commercial mortgages; property development and business finance; assurance and pensions.

You are a phone-call away from genuine expertise, genuine information, genuine help.

Robson Financial Services Ltd.,
6 Lovat Lane, London EC3
Telephone: 01-623 3495

NMC lifts half-time profit 46% to £2.8m

By Cliff Feltham

NMC Group, the packaging business in which the Saatchi brothers have a 20 per cent stake, has got off to a flying start this year.

Half-time results show pre-tax profits are ahead by 46 per cent at £2.8 million and analysts looking for a total of about £5.75 million for the full year are unlikely to be disappointed.

The share price responded with a 6p rise to 108p.

During the first half, the company took over AJ Bingley, a polythene packager, and Pricemaster, which produces quality retail labelling and bar codings.

Mr Norman Gordon, NMC chief executive, said: "If you take out the effect of the newly-acquired companies, 38 per cent of our growth in profitability was generated organically."

"The group's acquisition programme will continue. Our lack of gearing and the £7 million of cash on deposit enable us to finance future acquisitions without raising capital through equity markets."

Mr Gordon said he was convinced the market shake-out could play into the company's hands, bringing down prices to more realistic levels where NMC would be interested in making an offer.

NMC had, however, ruled itself out of any bid for the Cope Allman packaging business.

Mr Gordon said: "We were only interested in one third of the packaging business anyway, but we are no longer looking at it."

There is an interim dividend of 0.7p a share.

Eight crucial questions on energy by John Banham, the CBI's director-general

A powerful case for industry

In Britain, electricity prices are relatively low to the consumer and relatively high for intensive industrial users of energy, in marked contrast to the situation in some other European countries.

Present electricity prices to French and Italian competitors of British chlorine manufacturers are reported to be as much as 25 per cent below the British price; and Electricité de France has recently announced that price increases will probably be one point below the rate of inflation (electricity accounts for 60 per cent of the cost of chlorine).

The table, based on figures provided by the Electricity Council, Central Electricity Generating Board and British Independent Steel Producers' Association, provides the details.

It will be apparent that France, Italy and Belgium are discriminating in favour of industrial users of electricity, while The Netherlands and West Germany rely on low-price gas to support industrial competitiveness.

Despite the relatively low prices, the British electricity supply industry shows respectable returns on the assets employed. Last year, on an historic cost basis, the audited accounts for the Electricity Council (which includes the CEGB) show operating profits of nearly £1.9 billion — a return of 13.8 per cent, compared with the average for British manufacturing (of 18.0 per cent).

Electricité de France, by contrast, has not reported a profit for several years.

The implied British national strategy is then fairly clear: protect the domestic sector, and expect intensive

RELATIVE ENERGY PRICES 1986-1987

Index: England and Wales = 100	ELECTRICITY		GAS	
	Domestic Index	Industrial Typical	Industrial Intensive	Medium Industrial User
UK	100	100	100	100
Netherlands	109	100	108	69
France	136	108	91	77
W Germany	171	172	168	73
Belgium	171	127	95	69
Italy	185	137	87	75

Source: Electricity Council, Central Electricity Generating Board and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association

users to overcome the handicap of relatively high energy costs through conservation, productivity improvements and plant and productivity rationalization.

This is precisely what has happened. Britain's steel, chemicals, paper and plastics industries have a remarkable record of recovery from the dark days of the 1970s.

In many market segments, British-based suppliers are now world price leaders; productivity has recovered sharply and capital investment has increased. It is a magnificent record, achieved against the odds: electricity accounts for more than 25 per cent of the cost of steel and many internationally traded specialty chemicals yet British companies are paying more for their energy than many Continental competitors.

It is worth remembering that a difference of 3 per cent to 5 per cent in price is more than sufficient to lose an order in many of the markets in question.

However, despite government reassurance that it does not intend to penalize them, the prospects for these in-

dustries and their British customers will be seriously affected if recently announced price increases go ahead.

It is important to understand why industry is so concerned. For business overall, it could lead to increases of some £1 billion a year — money that will not be available for investment in plant and equipment, education and training, research and development or inner cities.

Some important questions need to be answered:

WHY has the target return for the electricity supply industry been fixed at 4.75 per cent in current-cost accounting terms, which is the equivalent of 16 per cent to 18 per cent in historical terms? Even in markets where companies face considerable market, technical and competitive risks, returns of this order are not being achieved and electricity faces no such risk.

WHY have recent events on the Stock Exchange not reduced the discount necessary to "sell" the industry to the market? The risk-reward balance must have changed. Investors are likely to be more averse to risk and to value near-certain income more highly while lower interest



John Banham: concerned rates will reduce the opportunity cost of money.

WHY, in effect, is the Government seeking to underwrite past investment mistakes in electricity generation? Most estimates suggest that the industry will command a price of about £15 billion when it is privatized. This is what it is currently "worth" and there must be a strong case for calculating the future target returns on this basis.

WHY, when the electricity industry has very little debt, is old plant being written off at the rate of more than £1 billion a year? By the time the industry is privatized it will have a completely clean balance sheet. Some of the debt could surely be privatized as well.

WHY should today's industrial consumers be paying for future increases in capacity?

Few manufacturers would consider putting prices up to pay for future capacity. Indeed, unless electricity supply is internationally price-competitive, the need for extra capacity will be open to question because British industrial demand will not rise if it cannot compete.

WHY should the CEGB be made to buy coal at well above world market prices? There is, of course, a social case for cushioning the coal mining communities but it cannot make sense to load the cost of coal on to industrial consumers. Some estimates suggest that the supply industry would save up to £700 million a year if it could buy coal at world market prices.

WHY should intensive energy users, and then industrial users generally, face the steepest increases? The domestic consumer is already enjoying a good deal compared with consumers in other EEC countries.

WHY not refurbish some existing electricity-supply plant to meet future needs? This would be cheaper, avoid costly planning delays and create work for the private sector.

Business is in favour of privatization and of introducing competition. But it is totally opposed to anything which would put at risk its ability to compete in tough world markets.

John Banham

Mr Banham was speaking yesterday in London to the Annual Conference of the National Joint Council of the Electrical Supply Industry of Great Britain.

Threat of Aids helps LIG to £15m profits

By Alison Eadie

London International Group, the fine china to condoms consumer products company, made pre-tax profits in the half year to the end of September of £15 million, a rise of 23.3 per cent. Turnover rose 15.4 per cent to £148.7 million.

Demand for condoms continues to accelerate worldwide as a result of the Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) threat. The health and personal products division registered a 36 per cent increase in profits to £8.6 million on sales growth in local currency terms of 23 per cent.

In North America, consumer buying of condoms is rising by 20 per cent, but LIG's sales are up by 40 per cent as new retail outlets start selling their products.

In Britain, LIG's sales more closely reflect consumer buying at about 20 per cent to 25 per cent higher. Demand in continental Europe is also rising fast and catching up Britain and North America.

Mr Alan Woltz, chairman and chief executive, is unconcerned by the entry of Virgin Group into the condom market.

Virgin is selling cheap condoms and giving the profits to combat the spread of Aids.

Mr Woltz said that condoms have never been price-sensitive, especially in Britain where LIG's Durex is the cheapest branded condom in the Western world.

Virgin's advertising campaign would help overall sales of condoms and spread consumer awareness, he said.

Royal Worcester, Spode,

LIG's fine china operation, made a small operating loss of £400,000, in spite of sales growth of 16 per cent in local currency terms and 10 per cent in sterling terms.

Pressure on margins continued in Britain with tourist and home demand not yet back to pre-1986 levels.

The second half, which is seasonally much stronger, should show a profit, Mr Woltz said.

Sales to North America are strong at the moment and LIG is covered against the dollar decline for the remainder of the year.

The home products and services division, which includes the photocopying business ColourCare and Duraplug electrical accessories, made profits of £7.8 million, a rise of 17 per cent, on sales 16 per cent higher.

The gains were made in spite of the divestment of some companies in the division.

The core photographic and electrical businesses increased profits by 22 per cent.

In September, LIG announced the acquisition of a leading Italian condom and healthcare products manufacturer.

There are no further acquisitions in the pipeline, although the company is always looking to add to its core businesses.

"We will wait and see what the implications of the stock market fall are," Mr Woltz said.

The interim dividend was raised by 17.1 per cent to 2.05p.

WELLCOME RESULTS 1987

Rise in profits comes from broad product range

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

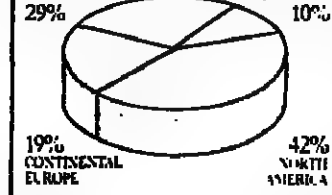
	1987 £m	1986 £m	% increase
Turnover	1,132.4	1,005.4	13%
Exports from the UK	228.1	198.5	15%
Research and development expenditure	142.4	132.5	7%
Profit before taxation	169.1	125.3	35%
Profit attributable to shareholders	94.1	63.9	47%
Dividends	23.7	17.4	36%
Earnings per ordinary share	11.2p	7.8p	44%
Shareholders' funds	559.0	513.6	9%



Mr A J Shepperd, Chairman and Chief Executive, reports: The past year has been greatly concerned with the development and launch of our AIDS therapy, zidovudine. Additionally, during the year, we have made progress across a number of fronts.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT Apart from the work on zidovudine, we have also further developed existing products, such as acyclovir and atarcurium, as well as progressing novel products, including an antihistamine and an anticonvulsant. In 1985 and 1986, our research laboratories won Queen's Awards for Technological Achievement and we were pleased to see them joined in 1987 by our Diagnostics division, which won an Award for its AIDS virus antibody test.

ANTIVIRALS GROWTH CONTINUES Since its launch in 1982, our antiherpetic drug acyclovir has grown to reach global sales of £160 million. Elsewhere in our product range, other products, such as digoxin and allopurinol, continued to hold up well in their markets, both showing increases in revenue, despite generic competition. In the intensively competitive "over the counter" market in the US, we have achieved further sales growth, and we are continuing to build our OTC business in other parts of the world.



GROWTH IN OVERSEAS MARKETS In our prospectus, we stated that special attention would be given to further development of markets in continental Europe and Japan. Sales performance in continental Europe, in local currency terms, increased by nearly 20% over the previous year, while that in Japan rose by over 40%.

COOPERS ANIMAL HEALTH A year of restructuring and investment in the UK and overseas has put the Coopers Animal Health group of companies into profit for the first time since its inception three years ago.

If you would like a copy of the Wellcome plc Annual Report for 1987 (available from 4th December), please write to The Public Relations Department, Wellcome plc, The Wellcome Building, P.O. Box 129, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP



Wellcome

Ireland assurance group in rights call for £18.8m

New Ireland Assurance, the Irish insurance group, 67 per cent-owned by UAP International, the French company, is to raise £18.8 million by way of a one-for-one rights issue at 380p per share.

Together with the £1.35 million already subscribed by UAP for shares in the company, the issue will provide more than £20 million in new capital for the development of the group's business in Ireland and abroad.

On completion of the rights issue, a controlling interest in NIA's associated company, Irish National, will be transferred to a new holding company incorporating NIA itself which will enhance diversification opportunities in the financial services sector.

The directors are confident that in the future the group will expand and develop with the support of UAP International, its main shareholder, and will consolidate its position in the forefront of the Irish insurance industry.

NZI lifts to £47m

NZI Corporation is paying an interim dividend of NZ 5 cents (NZ 4 cents) on December 17. Pretax profit for the six months to end-September was NZ\$135 million (£47 million) compared with NZ\$73 million previously. Turnover was NZ\$1,115 million compared with NZ\$951 million.

No full dividend

There is no dividend at Entertainment Production Services for the year to end-April. Turnover was £3.179 million compared with £3.205 million before. The loss before exceptional items was £650,000, against £441,000 last time. The loss per share is 9.09p, compared with 20.57p.

Plaxtons may sell

Plaxtons (GB) has agreed in principle to the sale of its building and shopping division, not including the

London site, through a management buyout. The consideration of £400,000 is in line with the division's net asset value.

Trust payout

The Scottish National Trust made a total dividend in the year ending September 30 of 5.95p, an increase of 11.2 per cent. Because of its reorganisation into a split level trust, SNT paid out two interim dividends rather than a final dividend. The trust's share price has held up well in the recent market fall, shedding only about 4 per cent of its value against a market drop of 23 per cent.

Great Portland up

Great Portland Estates, now holder of a 50 per cent stake in Bride Hall Group, is raising its interim dividend from 2.5p to 2.75p a share following healthier interim pretax profits. Profit for the six months ended September 30, which includes a modest £220,000 from Bride Hall, rose from £10.4 million to £12.1 million. The shares rose from 210p to 214p on results.

Publishing jumps

Publishing Holdings reports gross interim profits of £1.58 million to end-August, compared with £693,000 previously. Turnover was £3.37 million, against £2.13 million. Earnings per share are 1.04p (0.31p).

Tiger Oats payout

Tiger Oats has declared a final dividend of SA 337 cents (SA 270 cents) for the year to end-August. Turnover was R4.12 billion (£579 million) compared with R3.5 billion. Pretax profit was R239.2 million, as against R200 million last time.

GEI passes £2m

Pretax profit at GEI International for the six months to end-August was just over £2 million, compared with £1.2 million previously. Turnover was £39 million as against £30 million. There is an interim dividend of 1.94p (1.94p) and earnings per share are 3.34p (1.94p).

Bank of Scotland Home Loan Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from 14th Nov 1987 Bank of Scotland Home Loan Rate will be decreased to 10.25% per annum.

For new Mortgages granted from 16th Nov onwards, the 10.25% Home Loan Rate will apply immediately.

Bank of Scotland,
Head Office,
The Mound,
Edinburgh
EH1 1YZ

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

eat of Aid os LIG to m profits

By Alison Eadie

LIG's fine china
made a small profit
of £40,000 in the
half year. Its
growth of 16 per cent
currents terms and
cent in sterling terms.

Pressure on money
used in Britain alone
home demand not the
pre-1980 levels.

The second half
seasonally much
should show a
Wolfe said.

Sales in North
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The home
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BP is still the largest owner of oil reserves in the USA.

BP still employs 128,000 people in over 70 countries.

Over 4 million drivers around the world still fill up at BP every day.

In the first 9 months of this year, BP's historical cost profits were £1,131 million*.



Britain at its best.

*AFTER TAXATION AND BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS.

of Scotland
e Loan Rate

Scotland announces
ect from 14th Nov 1987

Scotland Home Loans
decreased to 10.25% p

annum.

Mortgages granted
onwards, the 10.25

Loan Rate will acc
immediately.

nk of Scotland.
Head Office.
The Mound.
Edinburgh
EH1 1YZ

Bellway builds up profit to £7.8m

By Alison Eadie

Bellway, the housebuilder, made pretax profits in the year to the end of July that were 72.7 per cent higher at £7.8 million. Turnover rose 15.1 per cent to £84.3 million.

The interest charge fell 44 per cent to £1.3 million after the company's £7.4 million rights issue in October last year. Operating profits were 25.2 per cent higher at £8.5 million.

DFW Golding, the Essex-based housebuilding company acquired in April, made a contribution of £850,000 to pretax profits. The company has dovetailed well with existing operations, Bellway said, and the areas in which it operates are experiencing record growth.

About half of Bellway's turnover is now in the South compared with about one-third last year. The company sold its loss-making Scottish housebuilding division to Tisbury Homes for £4 million in cash last May.

The final dividend was 5p making a total payout of 8p, a rise of 10 per cent.

Turnover record at Gleeson

By Geoffrey Foster

As forecast at the half-way stage, MJ Gleeson, the civil engineering and property investment group, achieved record turnover and profits for the year to June 30 1987.

Turnover advanced more than 19 per cent from £77 million to £92 million, while annual pretax profits rose nearly 15 per cent from £5.6 million to £6.5 million.

The directors said that the order book indicates that high output will be maintained in the contracting divisions and in private housing.

They added that there would be an increasing contribution from substantial rises in rents receivable. They were also confident about current-year prospects.

Rents and interest receivable rose from £2.4 million to £3 million.

After tax of £1 million (£2.2 million), earnings per share worked through at 54.30p (35.07p).

The final dividend is 4.8p (4.26p) making a total for the year of 6.66p (5.91p).

Markets crash: cause and cures

Crashing stock markets have deafened the investment community around the world, and startled one or two onlookers. Standing amid the rubble of paper, nervous analysts have been offering explanations for what happened. What has been turned up is that old standby, the United States budget deficit, which has been awarded the mantle of blame not partially, but totally. However, despite its convenience, this explanation is hard to justify.

There is, in fact, a much more logical explanation, which shows that the markets have been acting in a highly rational way. Investors, unconsciously, and in the spirit of Adam Smith's "invisible hand", are actually enforcing a solution to the huge external deficits of the United States that are destabilizing the international capital markets. All eyes are turned towards Congress, but are looking in the wrong direction.

What Happened and Why
How much prices have fallen depends on where you start counting from and where you end. There is little point in trying to define a precise number, any more than counting the leaves on a tree (particularly in autumn), but as a rough approximation it is reasonable to assume that at least \$2 trillion (£1,137 billion) has been wiped off equity values — split half in the US and half outside.

What happened is the easy part, at least so far, and the real point of interest is why. There is an obsessive desire to place the blame somewhere, and unanimous opinion seems to be that the budget deficit in the US is the problem that lies behind the crash. The deficit has been presented as the sole villain of the piece. In that respect, the proposal to cut a \$23 billion slice out of the planned deficit is seen as the act of leadership required to restore stability to the markets.

In addition, deficit reduction has taken on the appearance of a mythical elixir — a cure for all economic ailments. So not only will an agreement on the budget resolve the cause of the stock market crash, but it will also stabilize the dollar, and doubtless much else besides.

There are a number of problems with this view. First, the reduction in asset values of \$2 trillion seems somewhat excessive in relation to a deficit reduction of \$23 billion. Second, if that is the problem, the reaction seems to have come a bit late; the deficit fell by a record amount in the latest fiscal year — to \$148 billion from \$220 billion the year before. Third, it was planned to cut at least \$23 billion anyway, even before

stock prices reacted so violently. Fourth, it is hard to see why cutting spending or raising taxes after a crash should stabilize the stock market when people are already running scared that demand will drop, or even collapse. Fifth, why should bond prices rally if the concern really is the budget?

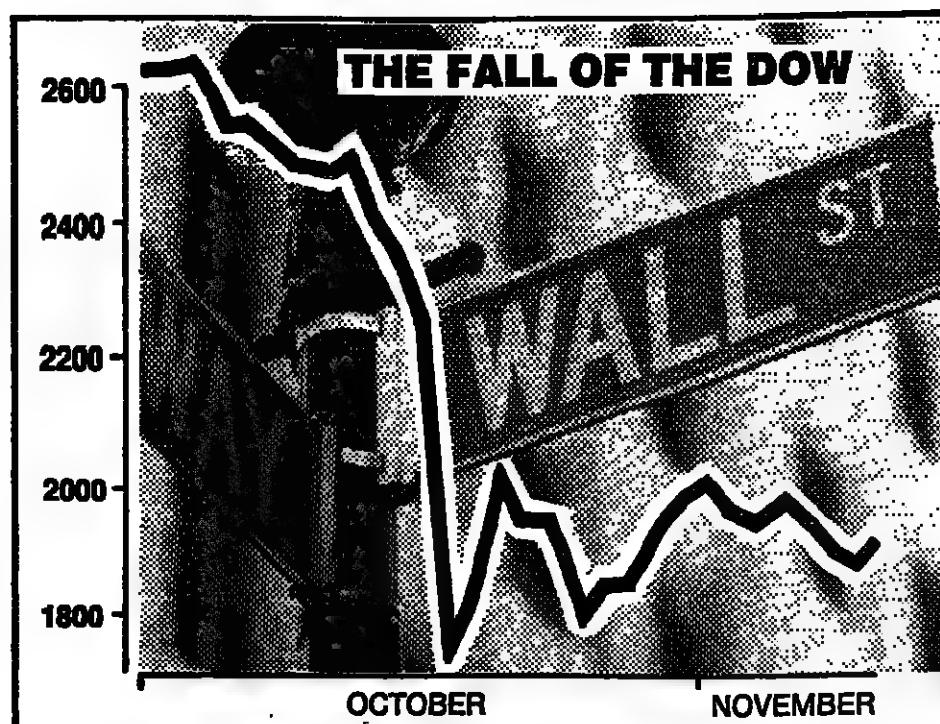
The truth is that the real cause lies elsewhere. The budget deficit has been part of the problem. The ancient wizen creature has certainly been malevolent, but less so now than in the past. The real problem is the current account deficit and counterpart capital flows that have ballooned to disproportionate proportions. The budget deficit, resulting from increased spending and lower taxes, was a major cause of the dramatic increase in the trade deficit, but the worst is now over. If the budget was to be a cause of a crash in the stock market, it should have come long ago.

Rising Debts and Deficits
The current account deficit is exactly equal and opposite to the net dissaving of the US. The relationship is identical to the situation of an individual who spends more than he earns — which, as Mr Micawber tells us, is miserable. It is not true that all the dissaving is in the form of increased debts, as generally assumed, although the majority does take that form. Part of the deficit is financed through the sale of assets — equities, real estate and direct investment.

Either way, there is an income flow created which is counted as a negative item in future current accounts. The US has already moved from being the world's largest creditor nation to being its largest debtor. In order to return to balance on current account, and therefore on capital account, the trade balance will have to go to a surplus.

The cumulative effect of the deficit is something that could not continue indefinitely. And yet that is what the people have been forecasting; it is the basis of the forecasts presented to the International Monetary Fund annual jamboree in September. Such a conclusion was, and is, totally unacceptable, and the crash in stock prices has been in recognition of this fact. There has to be adjustment, and it has to come fairly quickly.

Price or Quantity Adjustment
When you have a major imbalance in any market, there are two basic ways of correcting it — through changes in price or changes in quantity. The Louvre Accord



in essence ruled out any further price adjustment, thereby sealing one of the possible escape valves for the pressure that had built up. Consequently, in this important respect the widely acclaimed agreement was partly responsible for the stock market chaos that has followed. Without a price change, that left quantity adjustments as the only solution.

In the case of the imbalance in trade, there are two possible ways in which quantity adjustments can occur — either US demand must fall, thereby reducing imports and forcing US companies aggressively to search for other markets in order to maintain production; or demand must rise abroad, which will increase imports

and cannot be changed. It is not sufficient to offer as a solution: "If I want to get there, I would not start from here."

Here is where we are, and here is not very pleasant. The main problem this year has been with policy outside the US. In the latest fiscal year, the US budget deficit fell by \$72 billion, and interest rates increased significantly up to mid-October. At the same time, however, interest rates increased as fast or even faster in other countries.

West Germany, in particular, was committed to a policy of restraining demand. The position of West Germany is crucial to Europe, since interest rates and even fiscal policy in the other countries are closely tied to what happens there. The Bundesbank is, in effect, the Federal Reserve of Europe.

Not only did the Bundesbank raise interest rates, but the government was adamant that there should be no fiscal expansion. True, there are tax cuts slated for January, but there has also been a desperate scramble to find alternative revenue.

The decision in October to impose a 10 per cent withholding tax on investment income was important in demonstrating the incredible lengths the government was prepared to take this argument. I see this as an important straw in breaking the back of the market. It emphasized more clearly than anything else the impasse that had been reached.

If the rest of the world would not expand demand, and prices did not change, then the only solution left was a recession in the US — and the stock market crashed. Under these conditions, a recession in the US also meant

a recession in the rest of the world, and the dominoes clattered down around the world. Where to now?

That was not an end, but a beginning: the start of finding a solution. The US market crashed first, but the markets have behaved more rationally than governments in trying to force an alternative, and more acceptable, solution. At the end of the last decade, investors imposed a discipline on central banks, and particularly the Federal Reserve, by selling bonds and pushing yields up very high. Now selling pressure on the dollar is playing a similar role to force expansion outside the US.

A solution requires the US to have a bigger recession than other countries, or for other

'The real problem is the US current account deficit'

countries to grow faster than the US. There should be no doubt that the second solution is preferable, but it requires a dramatic change in attitude. In both cases interest rates in Europe will come down and the governments will try to expand demand. There is an easy way or a hard way.

Within an isolationist, domestic context, West Germany's policies make some sort of sense. Within a world context they are totally misplaced. By following conservative domestic policies of restraint, they will not achieve their objectives, but ensure a world recession. The right domestic policy requires the authorities to stop concentrating on the domestic economy.

The US is not as vulnerable as might be supposed in the event of a real world crisis.

The US is the major debtor now and a crisis will only push the dollar lower. That will reduce the value of external debt and improve the competitiveness of US companies still further. Europe would come out of this situation very badly. In the 1920s and 1930s, there was an important reversal of roles. Then the US was the major surplus country, with Europe in the debtor's role. And it was the surplus country that suffered the most.

The preferred solution is to get West Germany, and thereby the rest of Europe, to expand demand. In this respect, a falling dollar is far more persuasive than any amount of rhetoric. The process works by sharply reducing external competitiveness, depressing stock prices, raising the spectre of recession and forcing the central banks to respond by cutting interest rates. Ideally there might be some slight fiscal expansion.

Either way the dollar looks set to fall. And it is likely to remain weak until the Bundesbank is forced to reduce rates even further, and demand shows signs of picking up in Europe. Demand in Japan has already increased, but further easing can only help.

The falling dollar improves competitiveness, but that is not its main role at the moment. Improved competitiveness takes time to work through, and in the meantime, relative price changes are more likely to worsen the balance of trade, the dreaded J-curve effect. The importance of the falling dollar now is in forcing central banks around the world to ease policy.

What happened this year as countries around the world

raised interest rates was insane. The Federal Reserve was under pressure to tighten monetary policy — and this is where the size of the deficit comes in — but it is hard to see why other countries should have pushed rates up as fast, if not faster.

Central bankers may think that they are suffering from the tyranny of the markets, but quite the reverse is true. Nor is the dollar falling because of what Mr James Baker is saying; the Treasury Secretary is simply being carried along by the flood as much as anyone else.

Recession or no Recession?
There is a widespread opinion that the crash on Wall Street portends a severe recession in the US.

Before the stock market crash it had seemed to me that the US was heading towards a recession in the middle of

1988. Interest rates were pushing up and the need to correct the trade imbalance suggested that a recession was inevitable. The crash in share prices has, if anything, raised the possibility that the recession will be avoided, as it has allowed interest rates to fall.

The drop in share prices is likely to have some small effect on consumer confidence but it is far from clear how much. It is true that stock prices fall ahead of a recession, but that is a reflection of higher interest rates and a squeeze on credit; it is just that this shows up first in stock prices. This is exactly why these prices play such an important role in leading indicators of the economy. Evidence of a leading relationship is not evidence of causality.

What we have experienced here is something new. If there is a loss of confidence, it is more likely to be because the press has frightened people than because of a behavioural reaction to the reduction in equity values, which in most cases are anyway only where they were a year ago. In the case of AT&T, the most widely held stock in the US, the price is a good 20 per cent to 30 per cent above its range a year ago.

At present there is a struggle going on between recession and deflation. If there is a recession in the US, and a sharp slowdown in the best that can be expected, it will be because the rest of the world has not stimulated demand, and interest rates are pushed back up eventually to hold the dollar and restrain demand. It will not happen because the Dow has fallen back to where it was this time last year.

Falling Real Interest Rates
There is something else that is happening which is very important. At the end of the 1970s, real interest rates were pushed up sharply, as the markets imposed a discipline on the central banks. Interest rates have stayed very high until now, and have played a role in slowing growth. It is highly likely that real interest rates are in the process of coming down close to their historical levels.

This development, in the context of what else is happening, provides a more optimistic outlook of current events. Rapid growth is unlikely, but a better distribution is essential, and may now finally become a reality. One way or another, interest rates are going to fall outside the US. It is only a question of how big a crisis is necessary in order to achieve it.

Richard Coghlan
Director,
International Economic
Research Department,
Bank Julius Baer, London

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A full statement for the first nine months of 1987 (of which the above is an extract) will be mailed to all shareholders and is also available from Corporate Relations, Royal Insurance plc, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR. Please send me a copy of Royal Insurance's third quarter statement.

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1988. Interest rates were peaking up and the need to control the trade imbalance suggested that a recession was inevitable. The crash in oil prices has, if anything, increased the possibility that the recession will be avoided, as no allowed interest rates to be

The drop in share prices likely to have some effect on consumer confidence but it is far from clear by much. It is true that oil prices fell a good deal recently but that is a reflection of higher interest rates and a squeeze on credit in the process. This is exactly the effect prices paid for a recession. It is important to note that the directors of the economy, if demand is falling, remember the avoidance of recession.

What will be the experience of a recession? Life is a roller coaster. Confidence may be lost but not necessarily. The economy may be in a recession but not necessarily. The economy may be in a recession but not necessarily. The economy may be in a recession but not necessarily.

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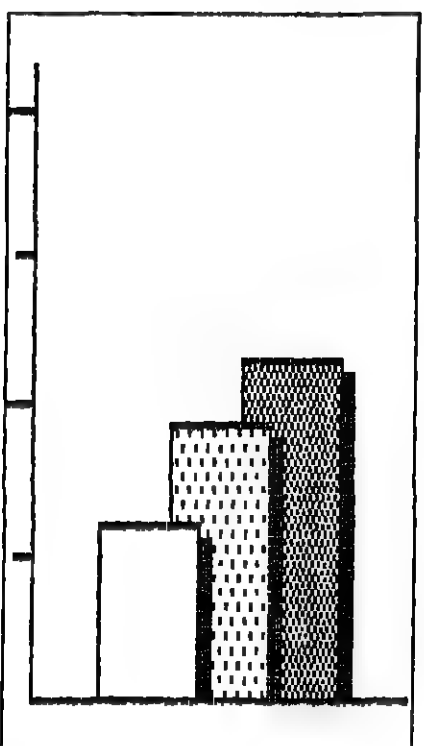
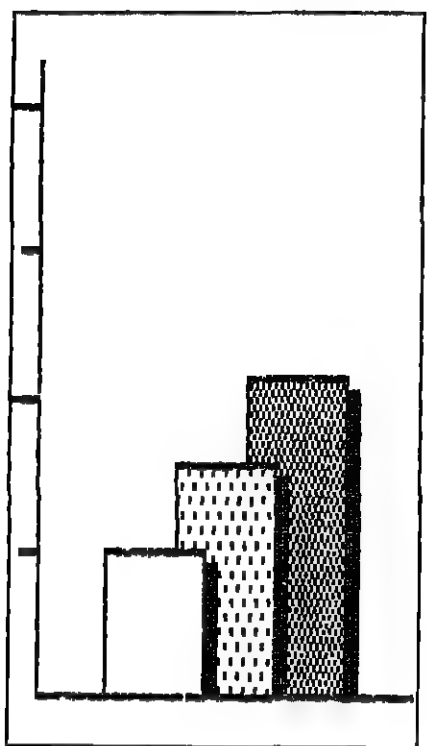
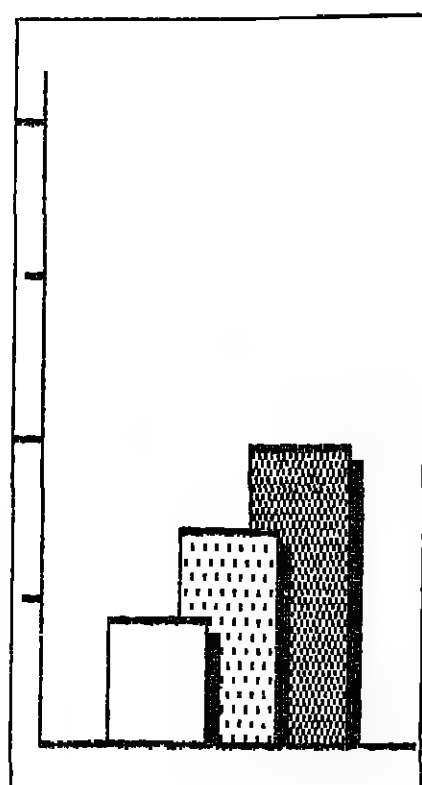
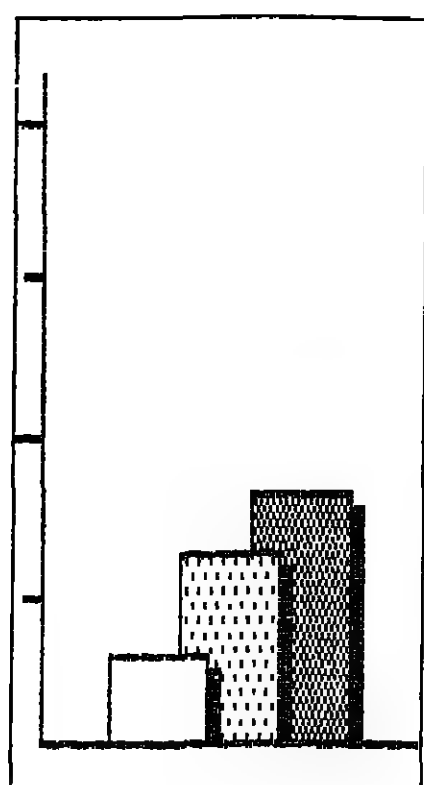
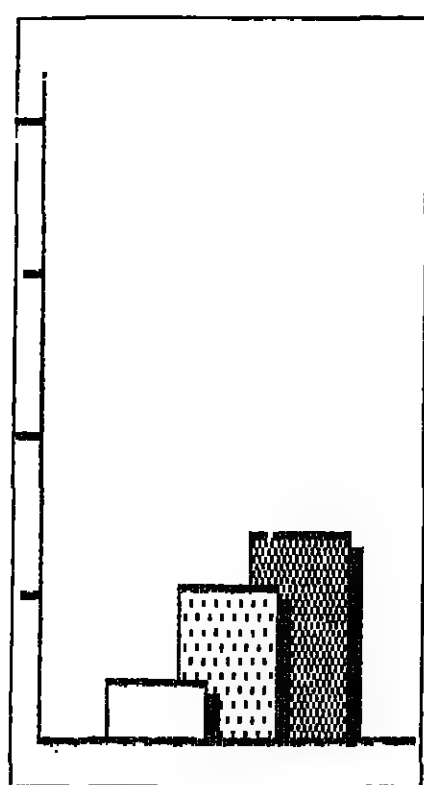
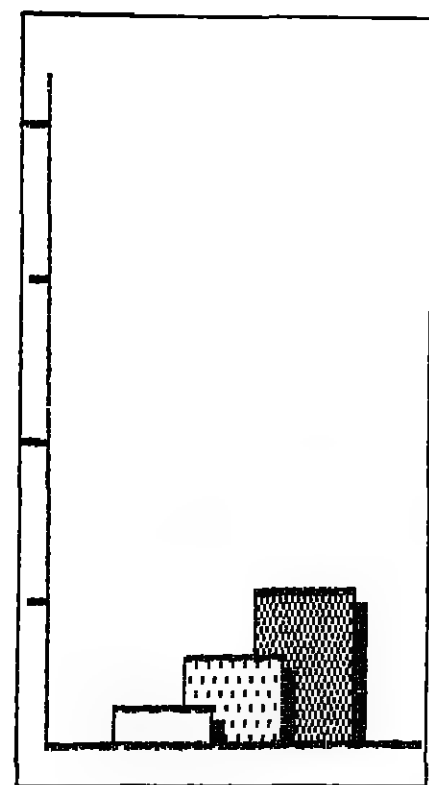
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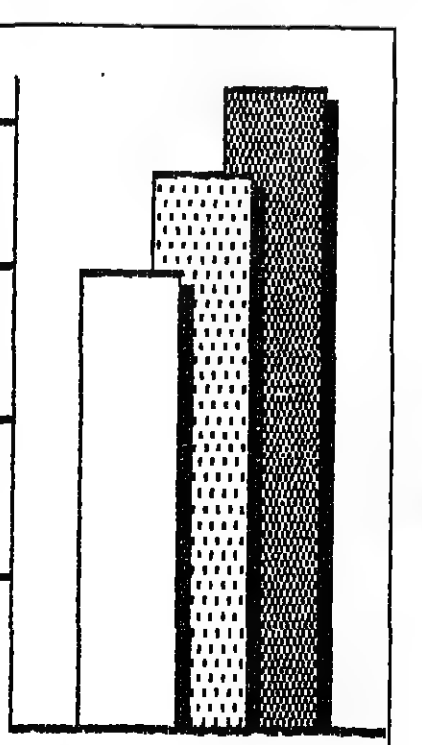
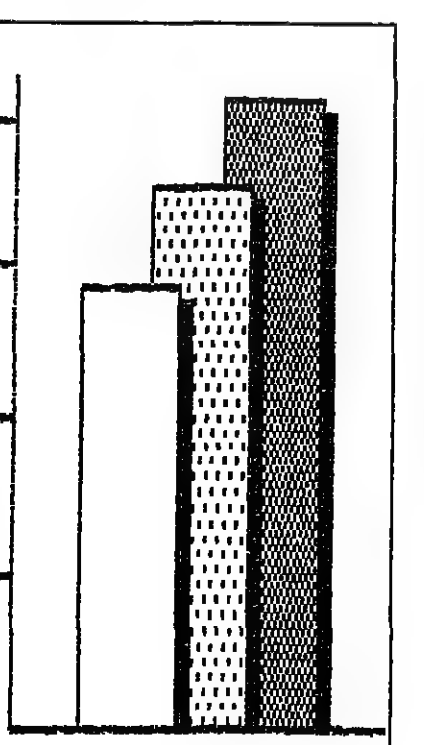
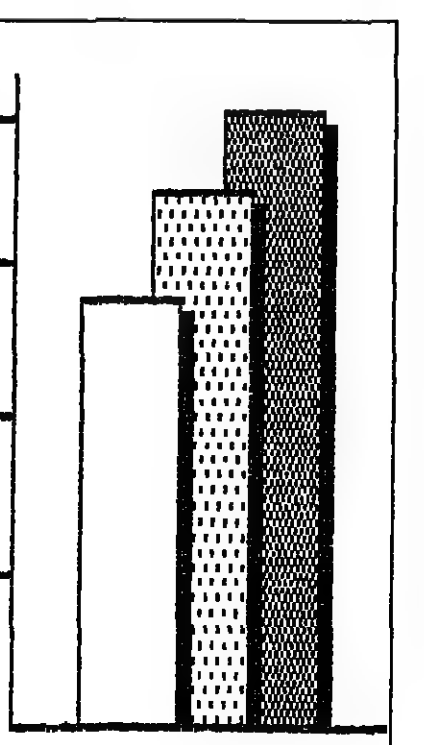
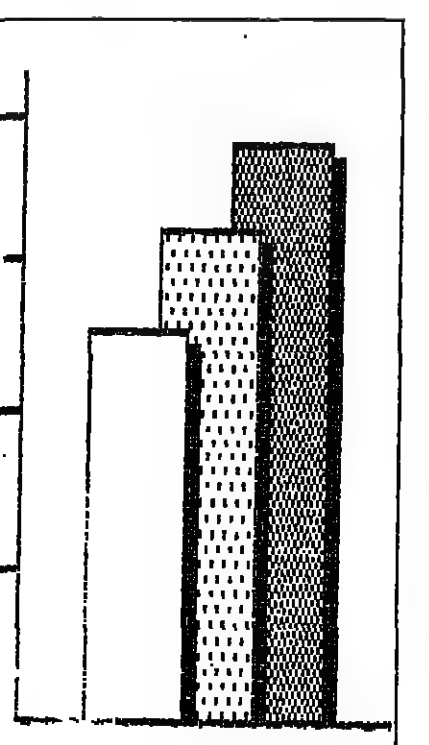
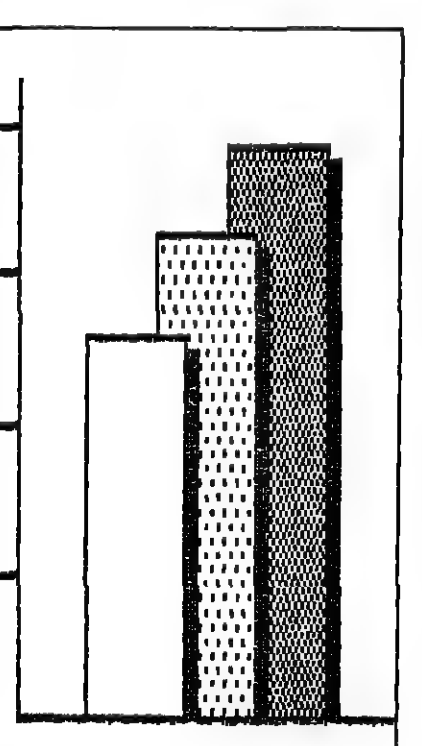
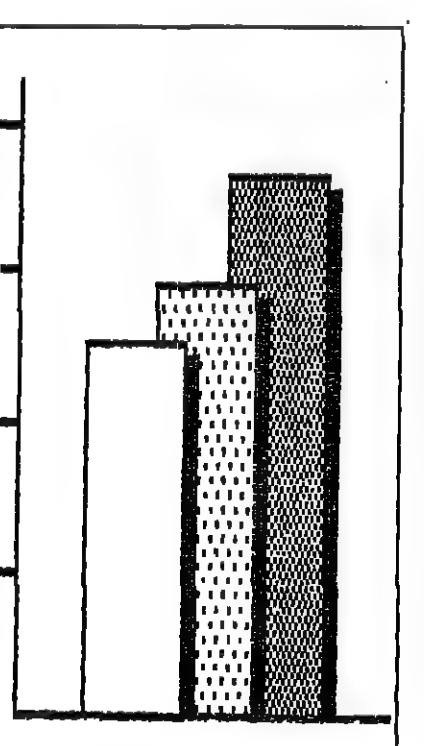
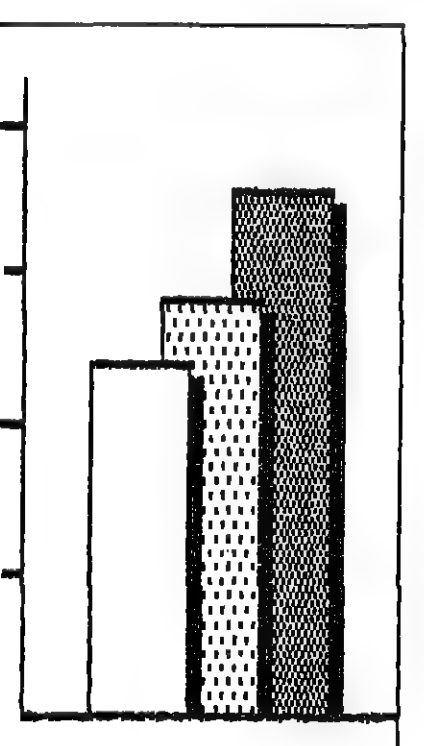
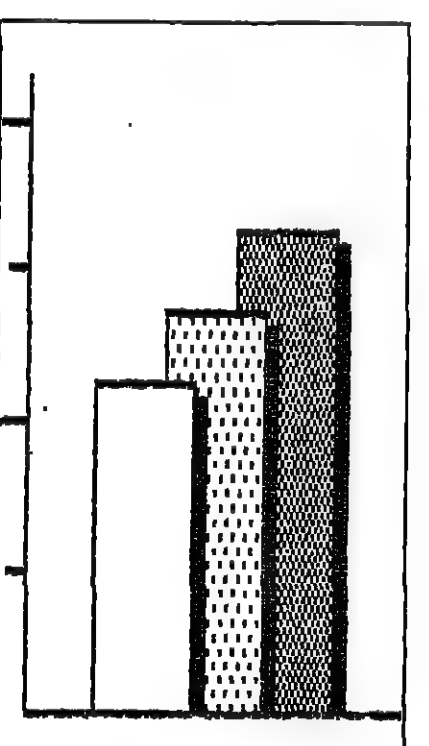
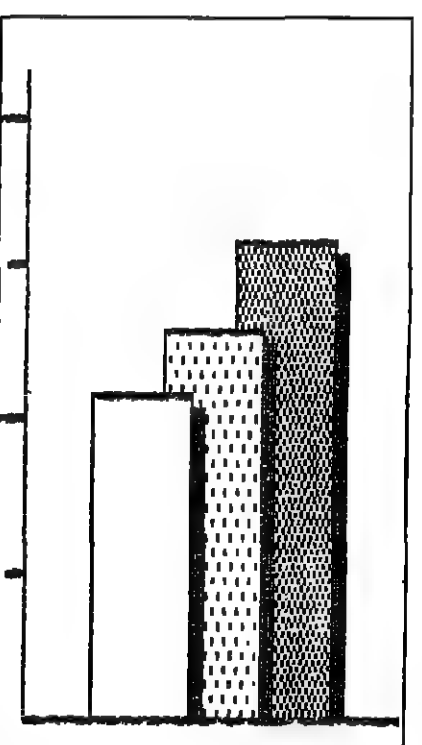
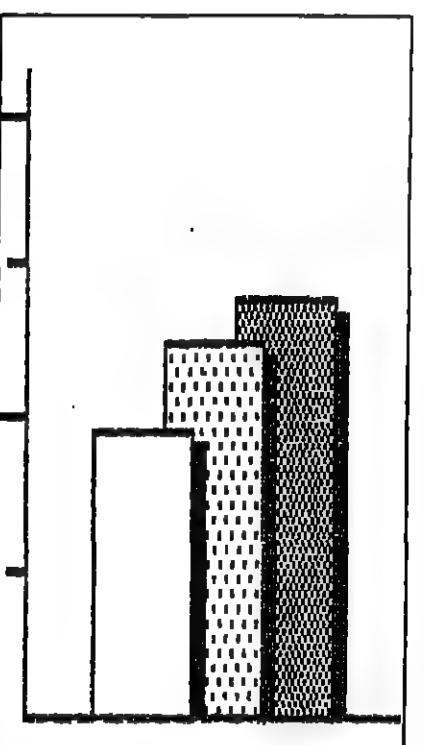
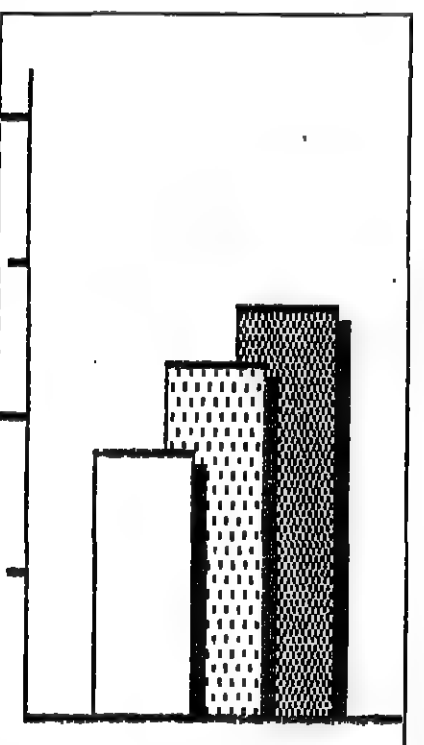
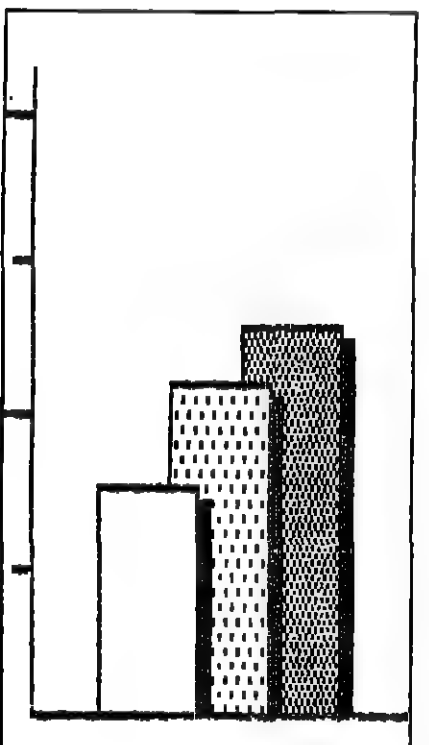
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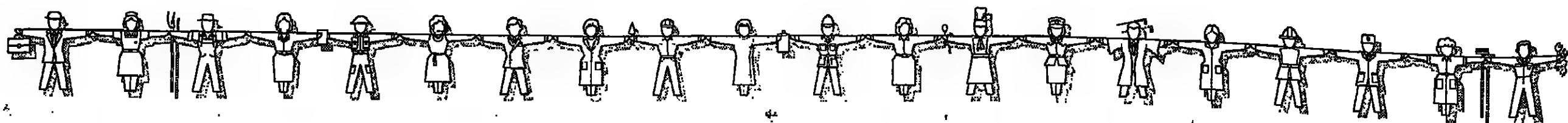
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Eurotunnel Share Offer starts next week

What is Eurotunnel, exactly?

It's the private sector group formed to build and operate the first ever fixed link between Britain and the Continent: the Channel Tunnel.

How long is the Share Offer on for?

It starts next week and will end on Friday, 27th November 1987.

Will there be travel privileges?

Yes. They'll be for individuals who buy shares in the offer and hold on to them. In return for an annual registration fee of about £10 (at July 1987 prices), these shareholders will be able to travel by Eurotunnel shuttles with their vehicle and everyone in it for just £1 each way. The number of £1 trips will depend upon how many shares individual shareholders buy and hold (see table below).

No. of shares	Entitlement
100	One return shuttle trip to be taken within 12 months of the System opening.
500	One return shuttle trip per year for the first ten years of operation.
1,000	Two return shuttle trips per year until the end of the Concession period, in 2042.
1,500	An unlimited number of shuttle trips until the end of the Concession period.

Eurotunnel Share Offer ends

Friday, 27

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A breakthrough
for Britain

How can shares be bought?

Everyone who registers with the Eurotunnel Share Information Office will be sent a mini prospectus and application form when they're published next week.

Copies of the prospectus will be available at all UK branches of National Westminster Bank, Midland Bank, Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank. The prospectus and application form will also be published in the national press.

What will shares cost?

The exact price will be announced next week, but the minimum investment won't be more than £350.

How do I find out more?

By telephoning 0272 277 007. You'll be under no obligation, but we'll send you a mini prospectus and application form when they're published next week, together with a reply-paid envelope in which you can return your application and cheque, if you decide to invest.



Phone:
0272 277 007

on Friday, 27th November 1987

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UNLISTED SECURITIES

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling Index compared with 1975 was down at 75.3 (day's range 75.1-75.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for November 12

Range	Cable	1 month	3 months
New York	1.7595-1.7690	1.7620-1.7630	0.34-0.31pc
Moscow	2.3176-2.3333	2.3190-2.3223	0.12-0.01pr
Amsterdam	3.3327-3.3540	3.3327-3.3372	14-1pr
Brussels	61.95-62.48	61.95-62.11	15-9pr
Copenhagen	11.4943-11.5231	11.4533-11.4794	34-14cs
Dublin	241.88-244.48	242.56-244.48	14-1cs
Lisbon	320-320.12	320-320.57	98-151cs
London	2183.64-2201.25	2183.64-2190.17	2-6cs
Ottawa	11.3057-11.3706	11.2320-11.2531	434-54 cs
Paris	10.0353-10.1231	10.0353-10.1231	14-1cs
Stockholm	10.7331-10.7773	10.7331-10.7599	34-1cs
Tokyo	239.14-239.73	239.14-239.54	14-1cs
Zurich	2.4427-2.4531	2.4478-2.4527	14-1cs

Premium = pc. Discount = dc.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral	6.9109-7.0020
Australia dollar	2.5739-2.5792
Bahrain dinar	0.0655-0.0663
Brazil cruzado	100.572-101.35
Cyprus pound	0.8010-0.8110
Danish krone	7.29-7.32
Green drachma	203.50-206.50
Hong Kong dollar	13.728-13.740
Indian rupee	22.93-23.13
Kuwait oil dir. KD	0.4985-0.4985
Lebanese lira	4.3367-4.4011
Malaysian ringgit	2.960-3.010
Nepalese rupee	2.635-2.8035
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.6150-6.6550
Singapore dollar	3.5395-3.5505
Sri Lanka rupee	5.730-5.750
S Africa rand (com.)	3.4651-3.4941
U.A.E. dirham	6.49-6.52
Yemeni rial	2.54-2.56

*London Stock Rates supplied by
Bates and Barclays Bank HOFEX.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

India	1.5740-1.5770	Germany	8.5300-8.5350	Italy	1.244-1.246.5
Singapore	2.0470-2.0480	West Germany	1.8895-1.8905	Belgium (Com)	35.35-35.45
Malaysia	2.5010-2.5020	Switzerland	1.3825-1.3905	Hong Kong	7.800-7.820
Australia	0.6600-0.6630	Netherlands	1.3000-1.3010	Portugal	136.85-137.35
Canada	1.3172-1.3182	France	5.7300-5.7400	Spain	114.20-114.40
Sweden	6.1100-6.1150	Japan	135.50-136.00	Austria	11.50-11.52
Norway	6.4435-6.4475				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Enfal.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates % Clearing Dates \$ Finances New 10%

Discount Market Loans %

Overnight High 9% Low 9 Week Base 9

Treasury Bills (Discount) %

Buying: 2 mth - 8 1/4% 3 mth - 8 1/4%

Selling: 2 mth - 8 1/4% 3 mth - 8 1/4%

Prime Bank Bills (Discount) %

1 mth 8 1/4% 2 mth 8 1/4% 3 mth 8 1/4% 6 mth 8 1/4%

Trade Bills (Discount) %

1 mth 8% 2 mth 8% 3 mth 8% 6 mth 8%

Interbank (% Overnight open 8% close 10%)

1 week 9 1/4% 1 mth 9 1/4% 3 mth 9 1/4%

6 mth 9 1/4% 9 mth 9 1/4% 12 mth 9 1/4%

Local Authority Deposits (%)

2 mth 8% 3 mth 8% 6 mth 8% 9 mth 8%

3 mth 8% 6 mth 8% 12 mth 8%

Local Authority Bonds (%)

1 mth 8 1/4% 3 mth 8 1/4% 6 mth 8 1/4%

9 mth 8 1/4% 12 mth 8 1/4%

Dollar Cds (%)

1 mth 8.50-8.52

12 mth 7.85-7.87

7 mth 7.35-7.37

6 mth 7.40-7.35

7 mth 7.35-7.37

6 mth 7.40-7.35

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling					US Treasury Bond				
Dec 87	91.20	91.25	91.07	91.04	Dec 87	89.50	89.50	89.00	9203
Mar 88	91.20	91.25	91.07	91.04	Mar 88	89.14	89.15	88.10	9751
Jun 88	91.00	91.10	90.95	91.10	Jun 88	88.25	88.25	87.00	9703
Sep 88	90.80	90.90	90.75	90.80	Long Call	121.84	121.87	121.84	122.25
Dec 88	WT	WT	90.60	90.63	Dec 88	122.00	122.25	122.00	40861
Mar 89	WT	WT	90.60	90.63	Jun 89	WT	WT	WT	WT
Previous open interest 20220					Previous open interest 22254				
Three Month Eurodollar					FT-SE 100				
Dec 87	92.85	92.87	92.46	92.50	Dec 87	185.50	172.00	169.80	1730
Mar 88	92.36	92.45	92.26	92.30	Mar 88	169.80	174.50	169.80	173.90
Jun 88	92.36	92.45	92.26	92.30	Japanese Govt Bond	101	101	101	101
Sep 88	91.86	91.87	91.81	91.84	Dec 87	105.50	105.13	105.50	105.13
Dec 88	WT	WT	91.26	91.26	Mar 88	105.50	105.61	105.05	105.13
Mar 89	WT	WT	91.18	91.18					
Previous open interest 19526					Previous open interest 1550				

COMMODITIES

LONDON FUEL					LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
Official prices volume previous day					Radial Wall				
COCOA					Copper				
Dec 1154-82	Q W Joynton	Dec 1218-15			1428.0-1430.0	1180.0-1189.0	321.375	Tone	
Mar 1156-85	Dec 1241-85				1390.0-1400.0	1170.0-1177.0	321.375	Steadier	
May 1177-75	Mar 1258-91							Sump	
Jul 1159-97	Vol 2593							Steadier	
COFFEE					Copper Grade A				
Nov 1250-57	Q W Joynton	Nov 1361-59			386.50-387.00	330.00-338.50	22.500	Sump	
Dec 1250-62.75	Dec 1361-59				477.00-479.00	401.00-491.50	32.800	Firm	
Mar 1250-67.75	Sep 1367-68				656.00-568.00	588.00-572.00	32.800	Firm	
May 1251-14	Mar 1410-00				696.00-590.00	698.00-572.00	30	Idle	
Jul 1250-57	Vol 2606				1640.0-1616.00	1605.0-1610.00	18875	Buy Side	
SUGAR					Aluminum				
Dec 1380	C Czarnikow	Dec 1380			3235-3245	3215-3220	9400	Idle	
Dec 1384-84	Aug 175-74.4							Buy Side	
Mar 1748-74.4	Aug 175-74.4								
May 175-74.8	Dec 177-47.4								

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					WHEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION				
WHEAT Class 1					Argus fatstock prices at representative markets on November 12				
Nov 1130.0	Q W Joynton	Nov 1170.0			Live Pig Contract				
Mar 1130.0	Nov 1170.0				Nov	98.5	98.5		
May 1130.0	Vol 100				Feb	94.0	94.0		
BARLEY Class 2					Pig Slaughter				
Nov 104.75	Q W Joynton	Nov 109.40			Jun	96.0	95.0		
Mar 111.25	Sep 99.00	Nov 101.00			Jun	96.0	95.0		
SOYABEAN					Eng/Wal (%)				
Dec 134.8-35.0	Aug 121.0-23.5				Nov	101.0	101.0		

October 30, 1987. Scheme IV: 10.094 per cent.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling					US Treasury Bond				
Dec 87	91.20	91.25	91.07	91.04	Dec 87	89.50	89.50	89.00	9203
Mar 88	91.20	91.25	91.07	91.04	Mar 88	89.14	89.15	88.10	9751
Jun 88	91.00	91.10	90.95	91.10	Jun 88	88.25	88.25	87.00	9703
Sep 88	90.80	90.90	90.75	90.80	Long Call	121.84	121.87	121.84	122.25
Dec 88	WT	WT	90.60	90.63	Dec 88	122.00	122.25	122.00	40861
Mar 89	WT	WT	90.60	90.63	Jun 89	WT	WT	WT	WT
Previous open interest 20220					Previous open interest 22254				
Three Month Eurodollar					FT-SE 100				
Dec 87	92.85	92.87	92.46	92.50	Dec 87	185.50	172.00	169.80	1730
Mar 88	92.36	92.45	92.26	92.30	Mar 88	169.80	174.50	169.80	173.90
Jun 88	92.36	92.45	92.26	92.30	Japanese Govt Bond	101	101	101	101
Sep 88	91.86	91.87	91.81	91.84	Dec 87	105.50	105.13	105.50	105.13
Dec 88	WT	WT	91.26	91.26	Mar 88	105.50	105.61	105.05	105.13
Mar 89	WT	WT	91.18	91.18					
Previous open interest 19526					Previous open interest 1550				

COMMODITIES

LONDON FUEL					LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
Official prices volume previous day					Radial Wall				
COCOA					Copper				
Dec 1154-82	Q W Joynton	Dec 1218-15			1428.0-1430.0	1180.0-1189.0	321.375	Tone	
Mar 1156-85	Dec 1241-85				1390.0-1400.0	1170.0-1177.0	321.375	Steadier	
May 1177-75	Mar 1258-91							Sump	
Jul 1159-97	Vol 2593							Steadier	
COFFEE					Copper Grade A				
Nov 1250-57	Q W Joynton	Nov 1361-59			386.50-387.00	330.00-338.50	25.00	Sump	
Dec 1250-62.75	Dec 1361-59				477.00-479.00	401.00-491.50	32.800	Firm	
Mar 1250-67.75	Sep 1367-68				656.00-660.00	686.00-672.00	20.00	Firm	
May 1251-14	Mar 1410-00				696.00-699.00	698.00-672.00	30.00	Idle	
Jul 1250-57	Vol 2606				1640.0-1616.0	1605.0-1610.0	1887.75	Buy Side	
SUGAR					Aluminum				
Dec 1380	C Czarnikow	Dec 1380			3235-3245	3215-3220	9400	Idle	
Dec 1384-84	Aug 175-74.4							Buy Side	
Mar 1748-74.4	Aug 175-74.4								
May 175-74.8	Dec 177-47.4								

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					WHEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION				
WHEAT (cwt)					Argus fatstock prices at representative markets on November 12				
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.75			Live Pig Contract				
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.75			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jan	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			May	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jul	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Aug	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Sep	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Oct	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jan	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			May	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jul	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Aug	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Sep	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Oct	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jan	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			May	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jul	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Aug	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Sep	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Oct	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jan	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Oct	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Nov	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Apr	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jun	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jul	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Aug	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Sep	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Oct	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jul	98.5	98.5		
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Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Dec	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Jan	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Feb	98.5	98.5		
Nov 1130.0	Jan 112.7	May 114.7			Mar				

91.10	0	SAG 07	106.05	106.15	105.50	105.62
		Mar 88	105.58	105.61	105.05	106.15

COMMODITIES									
LONDON FIVE									
COCOA		Q W Joyntson		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE					
Dec 1134-32		Sep 1218-15		Official prices/volume previous day					
Mar 1155-55		Dec 1241-39		Cash		3 month	Vol	Tone	
May 1177-75		Nov 1259-51		Copper 320		1380-0	321375	Steady	
Jul 1159-57		Vol 2293		Copper Std		1170-0		Susp	
COFFEE		G W Joyntson		Silver 326.50-357.00		418.00-1177.0			
Nov 1250-57		Nov 1250-57		Silver Lmt		433.00-338.50			
Jan 1250-57		Jan 1250-57		Silver Lmt		481.00-481.50	29200	Steady	
Mar 1215-14		Nov 1410-00		Silver Smt		688.00-672.00	30	Idle	
May 1340-38		Vol 2508		Silver Smt		688.00-672.00	Ni	Idle	
SUGAR		C Cason		Aluminum 914.00-916.00		695.00-895.00	188575	Buy	Idle
Nov 1250-50		Feb 3880		Aluminum 914.00-916.00		1605.00-1610.00	9400	Idle	
Dec 1545-50		Aug 175.0-74.4		Nickel 3235-3245		3215-3220	4042	Buy	Idle
Mar 175.0-74.4		Dec 175.0-74.4		↑ (Certs per Tray etc) ↓ (¢ per ton)					
May 175.0-74.4		Dec 175.0-74.4		LONDON MEAT FUTURES (¢/lb)					
Dec 175.0-74.4		Dec 175.0-74.4		MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION					
LONDON GRAIN FUTURES		WHEAT CASH (5% Vol)		Avg lastest prices at representative					
Nov 110.00		Nov 110.00		markets on November 12					
Dec 111.25		Dec 111.25		Live Pig Contract					
May 111.50		May 111.50		Nov		Open	Close		
BARKLEY CASH (5% Vol)		Nov 101.00		Apr (p)		96.0	96.0	Pig	Sheep
Nov 104.75		Nov 104.75		Feb		94.0	94.0	GB (p)	Cattle
Dec 104.75		Dec 104.75		Jun		96.0	96.0	GB (p)	150.1
May 111.25		May 111.25		Aug (p)		96.0	96.0	Eng (p)	-0.77
SOYABEAN		Nov 101.00		Oct (p)		96.0	96.0	Eng (p)	-0.44
Nov 104.75		Nov 104.75		Nov		101.0	101.0	Eng (p)	-0.84
Dec 104.75		Dec 104.75		Dec		101.0	101.0	Eng (p)	-0.42

Portfolio
—Gold—

§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price sensitive ratios are based on middle prices. (not) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUME PAGE 25.)

1


113	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
114	S & O Shares	170	175	163	168	127
115	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
116	Shares (1000)	170	175	163	168	127
117	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
118	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
119	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
120	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
121	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
122	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
123	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
124	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
125	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
126	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
127	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
128	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
129	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
130	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
131	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
132	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
133	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
134	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
135	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
136	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
137	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
138	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
139	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
140	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
141	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
142	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
143	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
144	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
145	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
146	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
147	Do U	170	175	163	168	127
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Taxpayer's default by accountants Correct procedure for equal pay case

Pleasants v Atkinson (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Mr Justice Hoffmann
[Judgment November 12]

For income tax purposes professional accountants employed by a taxpayer could commit wilful default on his behalf notwithstanding an express finding by commissioners that the taxpayer himself was unaware of any misleading information being included in his tax returns. In such circumstances an assessment to make good any loss of tax could be raised on the taxpayer under the provisions of section 36 of the Taxes Management Act 1970 outside the normal six-year time limit.

Mr Justice Hoffmann so held in the Chancery Division in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Richard John Pleasants, an architect, from a determination by Bedford general commissioners confirming a further assessment to Case I, Schedule D income tax made on him for 1972-73 in the sum of £9,018 in respect of profits from the trade of property development.

Mr William M. Rose for the taxpayer; Mr Nicholas Warren for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE HOFFMANN said that the taxpayer's accounts were prepared by a firm of accountants, S. Northwood & Co., 94 Midland Road, Bedford. One of the partners in the firm was an old friend of the taxpayer.

The accounts for 1972-73 showed that certain costs of constructing a private residence for his own use had been "put through" the taxpayer's property development accounts.

The commissioners found that the taxpayer was advised by his accountants that it was proper for both VAT and income tax purposes to treat such expenditure in that way. Further, they found that the taxpayer had accepted the advice and that although the relevant accounts submitted to the Revenue were misleading, the taxpayer was not aware of that and therefore was not himself guilty of wilful default.

However, they found that the accountants should have been aware that the accounts included substantial sums of private expenditure and they were accordingly guilty of wilful default committed on behalf of the taxpayer.

Doubtless it was unusual for there to be a finding that a taxpayer was entirely innocent but his accountants guilty of wilful default.

There was such a finding in *Clyth v Pountney* (1968) Ch 719 that was commented on by Mr Justice Cross as being "curious". But there was no logical inconsistency between the two findings.

The question for decision was whether on the facts found it was open to the commissioners to infer that the accountants were guilty of wilful default. It was clear that they were of the opinion that the inclusion of the taxpayer's private expenditure in his trading accounts was so gross an error that no accountants in the absence of some unusual explanation, could be thought that it was a proper thing to do.

No one on the accountants gave evidence before the commissioners. Thus they had no explanation for what was a most extraordinary dereliction of duty in preparing accounts.

It could not be said that the commissioners were not entitled to conclude as they did without saying that in the case of a professional adviser there had

to be some positive additional requirement before he could be guilty of wilful default.

Mr Rose suggested the need for some evidence of private enrichment or profit to explain an otherwise disinterested breach of duty on a taxpayer's behalf.

Such a requirement was not essential. It was in each case a matter of whether the inference of wilful default could be drawn from all the circumstances.

Reckless carelessness, which was what the commissioners had here found, entitled them to draw the inferences that they had. They were properly directed as to the meaning of wilful default and they had referred to them the judgment of the second applicant in the *Clyth* case concerning the unusual circumstances needed for wilful default to be committed by an adviser where there was innocence on the part of the taxpayer.

They were entitled to conclude that the accountants were guilty of wilful default committed on behalf of the taxpayer. The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Fairley & Co, Bedford; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Regina v Secretary of State for Social Services, Ex parte Clark and Others
Before Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Mr Justice Taylor
[Judgment October 29]

The correct procedure for speech therapists bringing equal-pay proceedings was a direct application to the industrial tribunal against the health authority which employed them, not an application to the Divisional Court to challenge the statutory authority which lay behind the salaries.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in considering an application for judicial review of the salary scales for speech therapists set by the Secretary of State for Social Services.

The applications were brought by Mrs Elizabeth Anne Clark, Mrs Lorraine Kelly-Atherton and Dr Pamela Mary Enderby, who were speech therapists employed by various health authorities.

Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Pannick for the applicants; Mr John Laws and Mr Nigel Fleming for the secretary of state; Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC and Mr Patrick Elias for the health authorities.

LORD JUSTICE CROOM-JOHNSON said that the applicants brought proceedings under section 12(2)(c) of the Equal Pay Act 1970 claiming that their work as speech therapists was of equal value to that of men employed by their employers as pharmacists and clinical psychologists.

The industrial tribunal dismissed those claims on a preliminary point. There was no investigation of their claims that their work was of equal value or other possible grounds for the health authorities. From that dismissal the applicants had appealed to the Employment Appeal Tribunal and that appeal was still pending.

The dismissal was founded on the undisputed point that the health authorities were required by statutory instrument to pay the applicants the very salaries which they were receiving and accordingly these proceedings had been instituted to challenge the statutory authority behind those salaries. There were thus two sets of proceedings alive.

The preliminary point upon which the health authorities succeeded was that any difference in salary was not a material factor which was not the difference in sex. That was that they were bound to comply with the National Health Service (Remuneration and Conditions of Service) Regulations (SI 1974 No 184) and the approval letter written by the secretary of state thereto.

Regulation 3 provided that if the salaries which had been agreed upon by the negotiating body, the authorities should pay "neither more nor less than the remuneration so approved". Once the approval had been given, those salaries had a statutory effect.

The authorities relied on the presumption of legality stated by Lord Diplock in *Hoffmann-La Roche (F) & Co AG v Secretary of State for Trade and Industry* (1975) AC 293, 365. It had to be noted that that case was not concerned with EEC law.

The applicants said that the fact that the salary scales had statutory force was not the end of the matter because the provisions of the Treaty of Rome had overriding force.

They sought to show that at the bargaining stage there was a failure to implement the requirement of Community law that there should be equal treatment between the sexes. If they could demonstrate that, then the regulation and the secretary of state's letter would merely be giving force to what was unlawful according to EEC law.

It was common ground that if there was a conflict between UK law and Community law then Community law prevailed. If the challenged salary scales breached the principle it was clear that the applicants had a remedy. The question at issue thus became one of procedure.

For the purposes of these applications it would have been necessary for the industrial tribunal first to obtain a report under section 2A(1)(b) of the Equal Pay Act 1970 as to whether speech therapists' work was of equal value to a man pharmacist's or a man clinical psychologist's.

The eventual decision would so held on October 30, when dismissing in part the appeal of the prosecution by way of case stated against Wetherby.

Justice's decision on February 11, 1987, that the prosecution had failed to establish a *prima facie* case of charges relating to driving a mobile crane with a trailer contrary to article 25(2).

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that the facts as found by the justices made it plain that the mobile crane, because of its construction and length, was in effect one vehicle split in two in order to be manoeuvred round bends and accordingly, informations relating to the trailer charges were rightly dismissed.

His Lordship added that in the light of the justices' findings of fact, informations relating to driving a vehicle with excess axle weights, contrary to regulation 83(3) of the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (SI 1978 No 1017) and sections of the Road Traffic Act 1972, should not be dismissed, and allowed that appeal with a direction to the justices to hear those charges.

Mr Justice Taylor delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Denise Kingmill & Co; Treasury Solicitor; Mr A. J. Beale, Cardiff; Bevan Ashford, Bristol and Mr A. P. Andrews, Bexhill-on-Sea.

ground on what was the correct procedure to follow in a case of this nature, it was clear that direct application to the industrial tribunal was the proper one.

But there was a second ground on which the applicants succeeded. That was that the wording of section 1(3), which required the employer to prove to the tribunal that the variation is genuinely due to a material factor which is not the difference of sex, would, save in wholly exceptional circumstances, require evidence.

It was not susceptible of being taken as a preliminary point. Such evidence was wholly lacking in the present case.

The mere fact that the authorities were bound by law to pay those salaries was not enough. The very matter at issue was whether the authorities really were bound by law and that the "material factor" issue had been determined.

It could not be said that the regulations were *ultra vires* until two things had happened: first, that an industrial tribunal had found that the therapists' work was of equal value, and second, that the "material factor" issue had been determined.

If in the end the case had to go to an industrial tribunal, it was obviously right that it should, if it could, go there direct rather than via a direction of the Divisional Court.

Moreover, regulation 3 applied to the remuneration of other professions besides speech therapists in respect of which it might not offend against the Equal Pay Act.

If it should be the case that the secretary of state had applied it wrongly in one case, the matter might be put right by a variation of the speech therapists' contract.

Until a decision had been finally reached, it would not be possible to say whether or not the secretary of state's direction was *ultra vires*. But there was no foreseeable risk that other industrial tribunals might be persuaded to reach inconsistent verdicts.

Accordingly, on the general

Councils can accept retrospective benefit claims

Regina v Secretary of State for Social Services, Ex parte Cynon Valley Borough Council
Before Lord Justice Parker and Mr Justice Kennedy
[Judgment November 6]

Local housing authorities were able to consider retrospective payments for the previous 12 months from the date of claim in respect of an application for housing benefit pursuant to regulation 82(2)(b) of the Housing Benefit Regulations (SI 1985 No 677).

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing two separate applications for judicial review on behalf of the first applicant, Cynon Valley Borough Council, and the second applicant, Mr Anthony Goodson, against the decision of the Secretary of State for Social Services, dated October 13, 1986, and the housing benefit review board of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, dated November 5, 1986, respectively, to the effect that the interpretation of the housing benefit regulations relating to retrospective payments did not apply to retrospective payments from the date of claim.

Regulation 28, which was central to both cases, provides: "(2) The appropriate authority may, except in a certificated case, . . . (b) if in its opinion the circumstances are exceptional, allow the benefit period to begin on a date which is twelve months or less earlier than the date of receipt of the claim."

Mr Richard Drabble for the first applicant, Mr Harry Sale for the second applicant; Mr John Howell for the secretary of state; Mr Nicholas Nardacchia for the council.

MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said that housing benefit was a creature of statute, and that by virtue of regulation 28(2)(b) of the 1985 Regulations, the housing authority was entitled to look back for up to 12 months from the date of claim and, if there were exceptional circumstances, benefit could be paid in respect of that period which had already passed.

Housing benefits were clearly intended to assist those in need and the rent allowance scheme should not be so interpreted as to create unnecessary anomalies.

Accordingly, the secretary of state's refusal to consider reimbursement of 90 per cent of £34,327 which the first defendant paid out in rent allowances to 83 miners whose circumstances made them eligible for such benefit was quashed.

Turning to the second case, His Lordship said that the fact that the second applicant was claiming benefit as an unemployed person did not prevent him from claiming rent allowances for the retrospective period for the last 12 months from the date of claim, for which he was eligible, and accordingly the decision of the review board of the council to refuse such a retrospective payment was quashed.

Lord Justice Parker agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Nicholas Stonehouse, Aberdare; Sinclair Taylor & Martin, North Kensington; Solicitor, DHSS; Mr Andrew J. Colvin, Kensington.

limited to giving guidance as to how the inherent jurisdiction of the court was to be exercised. It did not preclude the making of rules of court which would impose strict criteria for bringing actions on speedily and for providing really effective sanctions where there were delays.

His Lordship hoped that the Supreme Court Rule Committee would give serious thought to the position in which the courts were all familiar.

THE MASTER OF THE ROSS said that the decision of the House of Lords in *Burke James* (1978) AC 297 was

Human Rights Law Report

Administrative civil rights violations should be able to be brought to court

Pudas v Sweden
(Case No 12/1986/10/158)
Before Judge R. Ryssdal, President and Judges G. Lagergren, B. Walsh, R. Macdonald, C. Russo, J. Gersing and J. De Meyer

Boden v Sweden
(Case No 18/1986/116/164)
Before Judge R. Ryssdal, President and Judges G. Lagergren, F. Gökçuklu, L.-E. Pettit, R. Macdonald, R. Bernhardt and J. De Meyer

Registrar M.-A. Eissen
[Judgments October 27]

The right to a fair trial, as guaranteed by article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights, was violated if an individual was entitled to bring before a court a dispute concerning an administrative measure which directly affected his civil rights.

The European Court of Human Rights held, in two separate unanimous judgments, that Sweden had violated article 6 of the Convention by not providing Mr Pudas with the possibility of having the revocation of his transport licence reviewed by a court and by not providing Mr Boden with the opportunity to challenge before a court an expropriation permit affecting two properties of which he was a part owner.

Article 6 of the Convention stipulates that: "In the determination of his civil rights and obligations . . . everyone is entitled to a . . . hearing . . . by (a) . . . tribunal . . ."

Case of Pudas
In 1980 the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten, Mr Pudas a taxi licence and a licence to carry passengers on specified inter-urban routes.

On April 2, 1981, the County Traffic Company of Norrbotten, a company wholly owned by the county council and the municipalities in the county, filed an application with the County Administrative Board for a licence to provide inter-urban transport on routes covered by Mr Pudas's second licence.

The company indicated that it proposed to rationalise existing facilities by replacing Mr Pudas's service with a bus service to be provided under contract by another private transport business. On August 17, 1981, the County Administrative Board granted the County Traffic Company's application and revoked Mr Pudas's licence.

Mr Pudas appealed to the Board of Transport. He claimed, among other things, that the County Traffic Company's application had been motivated not by any public interest in improving transport facilities but by an arrangement between the company and the other private transport business.

This appeal and his further appeals to the Government (Ministry of Transport) were all rejected.

Case of Boden
Mr Boden was a resident of Falun, where he owned, together with his brother, three prop-

erties. On June 30, 1977 the Falun Municipal Council adopted an area plan with a view to the development of a housing estate in an area including the applicant's properties. On February 9, 1978, the municipal council applied to the Government for an expropriation permit for this area. Despite Mr Boden's objections, the Government issued the permit on March 1, 1979.

Before the expropriation was finalised, Mr Boden and the municipality negotiated, on July 2, 1984, a settlement for the sale of the properties to the municipality. On December 17, 1986, a further agreement was reached for the repurchase by the applicant of the properties for the same amount as the municipality had paid for them in 1984.

After attempting unsuccessfully to achieve a friendly settlement in both cases the European Commission of Human Rights drew up reports, in December 1985 and May 1986, establishing the facts and expressing the unanimous opinion that there had been a breach of article 6(1) of the Convention in both cases and that no separate issue arose

under article 13 in the case of Pudas.

In two separate judgments the European Court of Human Rights held:

I Alleged violation of article 6
A Applicability of article 6(1)

According to the Court's established case-law, article 6(1) extended only to *contentious* (disputes) over "civil rights and obligations" which could be said, at least on arguable grounds, to be recognized under domestic law; it did not in itself guarantee any particular content for "civil rights and obligations" in the substantive law of the contracting states.

As to whether there was a *contentious* within the meaning of article 6(1), regard had to be had to the proceedings which were the subject of the case-law summarised in its *Benthem* judgment of October 23, 1985.

A Conformity with the spirit of the Convention required that the word "*contentious*" should not be construed too technically and should be given a substantive rather than a formal meaning.

B The *contentious* could relate not only to the actual existence of a right but also to its scope or

the manner in which it could be exercised. It might concern both questions of fact and questions of law.

C It had to be genuine and of a serious nature.

D The expression "*contentious*" was not to be understood as covering only civil rights and obligations, but also proceedings of a public-law nature.

The respondent Government had argued that the transport licence concerned did not constitute a "right" and that the revocation of the licence deprived essentially on an assessment of policy issues not capable of or suited to judicial control.

The Court, however, came to the same conclusion as the Commission.

First, subject to the possibility of revocation, the licence conferred a "right" on the applicant

in the form of an authorization to carry out a transport service in accordance with the legally prescribed conditions.

Mr Pudas could plausibly and arguably maintain that according to Swedish law he was entitled to continue his business under the licence. He was not obliged to resign not only the licence but also its lawfulness. In addition, the proceedings complained of were directly decisive for the right to it.

The Government further contended that the provision of public transport in Sweden carried the "predominant stamp of a public-law activity". Thus, the responsibility for ensuring the availability of proper transport facilities was placed by law on public authorities.

The provision of services by a private transport business such as the applicant's was regulated in detail by the public authorities, with a view to securing the public interest. Finally, a substantial, and often a major, part of the licence-holder's costs were covered out of public funds.

In the Court's view, however, those features of public law did not suffice to exclude from the category of "civil rights" under article 6(1) the rights conferred on the applicant by virtue of the licence. The claimed entitlement to the maintenance of the licence was a condition of the exercise of Mr Pudas's business activities.

In Sweden, the provision of transport services by private persons took the form of a commercial activity, carried out with the object of earning profits and based on a contractual relationship between the licence-holder and the customers.

Case of Boden
The applicant's right of ownership of the properties in issue was without doubt a "civil right" — and that had not been disputed.

The Swedish Government had, however, maintained that the issue of the expropriation permit was purely a policy decision and that there had consequently been no genuine *contentious* concerning questions of law or of fact susceptible of judicial assessment.

The Court did not share that view. On the facts, it appeared that there existed a serious disagreement between Mr Boden and the Swedish authorities which raised questions going to the lawfulness, under the applicable Swedish legislation, of the issue of the permit.

Furthermore, the expropriation permit was decisive for the applicant's property rights.

The Court therefore concluded that article 6(1) was applicable in both cases.

B Compliance with article 6(1)
The Government admitted in both cases, should the Court find article 6(1) applicable, that the applicants had not been afforded the safeguards this provision guaranteed.

Case of Pudas
The dispute in question was determined by the Government (Ministry of Transport and Communications) in its capacity as authority of final instance. The Government's decision rejecting Mr Pudas's appeals against the revocation of his licence by the County Administrative Board was not open to review as to its lawfulness by either the ordinary courts or the administrative courts, or by any other body which could be considered to be a "tribunal" for the purposes of article 6(1).

Admittedly, holders of an inter-urban traffic licence could challenge the lawfulness of a revocation by requesting the supreme administrative court to re-open the proceedings. However, that extraordinary remedy did not meet the requirements of article 6(1).

Case of Boden
The Government pointed out that both the Falun Municipal Council's decision to adopt an area plan and its decision to request an expropriation permit could have been challenged before the County Administrative Board, and, subsequently, the Supreme Administrative Court.

However, those two decisions were only preparatory steps which, in themselves, did not at that stage interfere with the applicant's civil rights. That being so, the Court found no reason to undertake a further examination of those remedies.

The Government's decision as to the issue of the permit was not open to appeal before either the ordinary or the administrative courts, or before any other body which could be considered to be a "tribunal" for the purposes of article 6(1).

III Alleged breaches of article 13 of the Convention and article 1 of the First Protocol
In the Pudas case, the Court held that, in the circumstances, there was no necessity for it also to examine the case either under article 13 of the Convention which guaranteed the right to an effective remedy before a national authority, or under article 1 of the First Protocol which guaranteed the right of property.

III Application of article 50 of the Convention
Both applicants had claimed, by way of satisfaction under article 50, financial compensation for prejudice allegedly suffered and reimbursement of costs and expenses.

As to pecuniary damage, there was no evidence in either case that the Court remedy been available. The decision, however, had been in the applicant's favour. Accordingly, no award of compensation was made under that head.

The Court, however, considered, by way of satisfaction under article 50, financial compensation for prejudice allegedly suffered and reimbursement of costs and expenses.

Deciding on an equitable basis, it fixed the amount of compensation at 20,000 Swedish crowns.

On the other hand, it held that, in the particular circumstances of the Boden case, the finding of a violation of article 6(1) constituted in itself adequate satisfaction for the purposes of article 50.

As to the claim for costs and expenses incurred in connection with the case before the national authorities and the Convention institutions, some items of expenditure were not contested by the respondent Government.

On the other hand, the causal link with the violation found by the Court, the necessity and/or the reasonableness of other items was not established by the evidence. Consequently, only partial reimbursement was awarded.

The total award of 80,606 Austrian schillings had to be reduced by the amount received by way of legal aid

There had accordingly been a breach of article 14 of the Convention, taken together with article 1 of the First Protocol.

III Application of article 50 A Damages
The Court pointed out that, although article 1 of the First Protocol did not entitle Mr Inze to inherit his mother's farm specifically, he nevertheless lost real opportunities of taking it over. Furthermore, the judicial settlement mentioned above did not completely efface the initial disadvantage suffered by him.

Since the said loss of opportunities did not readily lend itself to precise quantification, the Court, making an assessment of an equitable basis, awarded Mr Inze the sum of 150,000 Austrian schillings.

B Costs and expenses
The Court first awarded the applicant 25,539 Austrian schillings for costs and expenses incurred in Austria. It rejected in that context a plea by the Government that certain lawyers' and expert's fees had not been necessary.

With regard to lawyer's fees before the Convention institutions, the Government did not contest that the applicant had incurred liability for sums additional to those covered by the legal aid received from the Council of Europe, but argued that the figures claimed were excessive.

In the circumstances of the case, the Court felt unable to award the totality of the sums claimed, but considered on an equitable basis, that the applicant should be reimbursed 55,000 Austrian schillings.

The total award of 80,606 Austrian schillings had to be reduced by the amount received by way of legal aid

Although that fact did not disprove the previous rules, contrary to the Convention, it showed that the aim of the legislation could have been achieved by applying criteria other than that based on birth in or out of wedlock.

In that respect, the Court recalled that the Convention

including the farm, subject to a distribution of the assets in accordance with the relevant Carinthian legislation.

Furthermore, he and his co-heirs had already accepted their respective shares; the estate was accordingly their joint property, although none of them had an immediate right to a specific asset.

The applicant did not challenge the system of hereditary farms as such, whereby only one heir might inherit the property, but only the fact that under the relevant legislation he was, on the sole ground of his illegitimate birth, deprived of any possibility of obtaining his mother's farm.

The Court concluded that the facts thus fell within the ambit of article 1 of the First Protocol and that article 14 of the Convention was applicable.

B Compliance
For the purposes of article 14, a difference of treatment was discriminatory if it "has no objective and reasonable justification", that is, if it did not pursue a "legitimate aim" or if there was not a "reasonable relationship of proportionality between the means employed and the aim sought to be realised". There was established case-law on that point.

The contracting states enjoyed a certain margin of appreciation in assessing whether and to what extent differences in otherwise similar situations justified a different treatment in law. The scope of that margin varied according to the circumstances, the subject-matter and its background.

In that respect, the court recalled that the Convention

Survivor who gives food for thought

BREXING

Industrial sector

ABUSINESS ADVISOR/ MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

DISCOUNT SUPERMARKET

SPORTS AND LEISUREWEAR

ROWING

Fours take to the Thames in hundreds

By Jim Raiton

The 33rd Head of the River Fours, sponsored by Fuller, Smith and Turner, the independent London brewery, takes place tomorrow and will be contested by 500 crews rowing and sculling three miles downstream from Barnes Terrace to Putney Pier.

The race was dominated last year by Nottingham County Rowing Association, who not only finished in the first two places but also placed three quadruple scullers among the top six. But they will receive a very strong challenge this year from the establishment in the cerise colours of Leander.

The Leander quadruple sculls will be attacked by Richard Stanhope, backed by Steve Redgrave, the Olympic and world champion, and complemented by Adam Clift and Jon Spencer-Jones. They put their act together in the coxed four, where he will be joined by two other internationals.

The Nottingham challenge and defence of the title is likely to be spearheaded by Carl Smith, Martin Knigh, Simon Larkin and possibly Rory Henderson, who enjoyed a very successful season last year.

Redgrave's last competitive surge was the British Bobsleigh championships in Winterberg in West Germany, in which as brakeman he finished second. "My ambition is to compete in the winter and summer Olympics in one year," he said.

He has, as it appears, an insatiable appetite, and is aiming to contest the box and coxless pairs in Scotland in September. Redgrave's partner in this quest is Andy Holmes, who is scheduled to make a strong challenge tomorrow on behalf of Leander in the coxed four, where he will be joined by three other internationals.

Favourite for the coxless four title must again be Leander, with world finalists Mark Buckingham, Steve Peel, Simon Berrisford and Peter Mulheims on board. They will receive a strong challenge however from the British lightweight eight, rowing in two fours in London Rowing Clubs' livery.

There is likely to be a titanic clash also between the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the two great coxless fours, Oxford's top crew in the coxed four, stroked by their usual and heaviest boat-steward oarsman of all time, Gavin Stewart, with the American international and president, Chris Penny, and winning Blues in this year's Boat Race, and Cadogan-Hudson and Richard Hall, making a formidable quartet.

Cambridge have entered three strong crews, with president, Jim Garman, on board the coxed four with the talented Matthew Britton, Nick Grundy and stroked by Guy Pooley.

NETBALL

Athlete finds advancement in a new sport

The international shot put competitor, Vanessa Head, who is in her first season of competitive netball, has been selected for the Welsh squad preparing to meet the West Indies in Cardiff on December 1.

The national coach, Bev Ryan, is relishing the thought of working with a player of her physical attributes and competitive experience.

In an attempt to improve their goalkeeping potential the Welsh selectors have chosen no fewer than eight shooters for the squad. Jane Allchurch (West Glamorgan) has been called after a three-year break. The former under-21 international, Andrea Hopkins (Gwent), also returns.

HOCKEY

Double international honour for Brittin

By Joyce Whitehead

Jeannette Brittin, who has been opening the batting for the English women's cricket team for the past seven years, will become a double international later this month. She has been named as the only new player in the England women's indoor squad of 12 for the Home Counties tournament at Crystal Palace on November 27 or 28.

Miss Brittin, aged 23, of Ealing, and Claire Liddell take the places of Karen Brown and Mary Cheetham, who are unavailable owing to outdoor training with Great Britain for the Olympic Games qualifying matches in Barcelona in December, which take priority.

ENGLAND: M. S. Gurney (Lancashire, capt), J. Lister (Suffolk), J. B. Smith (Surrey), L. Carr (Lancashire), C. Crook (Lancashire), J. Edwards (Kent), C. Liddell (Essex), D. Shorrey (Kent), J. Thompson (Buckinghamshire), T. Wiles (Suffolk).

There are now only two weekends remaining before the

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated
FOOTBALL
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Rotherham City v. Queens Park Rangers (at Rotherham), Portadown v. Glenavoy.

RUGBY LEAGUE
JOHN PEARCE SPECIAL TROPHY: First round Springfield v. Barrow.

OTHER SPORT
BADMINTON: Taber Northumberland championships (at Newcastle), 1st round.

BASKETBALL: Carlisle v. League, 1st round (at Carlisle), 7.30 p.m.

RACKETBALL: Maryman Lager North of England championships (at Maryman), 7.30 p.m.

REAL TENNIS: Real Tennis National League (at Hoveport, Matherhead).

SNOOKER: Tenants UK championship (at Preston).

MOTOR RACING: THE 1987 GRAND PRIX SEASON ENDS ON SUNDAY, AS DOES THE WORLD CHAMPION'S ASSOCIATION WITH WILLIAMS



Moving on: Nelson Piquet will not be satisfied with 20 Grand Prix wins

GOLF: BRITISH PLAYERS PROVE THE SHINING LIGHTS DESPITE EARLY STARTS AND LATE FINISHES

Faldo happy to remain in the dark as Lyle leads with a 65

From Mitchell Platt's Golf Correspondent, Maui, Hawaii

Sandy Lyle captured the first round lead in the Isuzu Kapala International with a superb first round of 65—seven under par—here on the Bay Course.

Lyle gathered seven birdies and, by keeping a five off his card, he edged into a one-shot lead ahead of the American, Andy Bean. Nick Faldo finished with a 67 to join Payne Stewart and Lanny Wadkins on that mark.

Faldo had elected not to putt out from eight feet for a birdie on the 18th green after darkness had descended on Wednesday. Officials hastily arranged for the headlamps of cars to be shone on the last two fairways and greens in an effort to complete the day's play.

Faldo, however, obtained permission to return yesterday morning—rather than take a shot in the dark—and make his final putt.

Incentive to buy Open tickets early

Golf supporters have been given a financial incentive to buy tickets early for next year's Open Championship at Royal Lytham and St Anne's.

If purchased before January 31 a season ticket, giving entry to the four practice days and to the four days of the championship, will cost £35.

This represents a 44 per cent discount for the equivalent daily rate for the period. This year the highest increase is in the composite ticket, an all-in price covering car parking too, which goes up from £140 to £160.

Strong winds forced the abandonment of play in the second round of the Irish Professional Championship at County Louth, Ballyry, it has been decided that the leading 40 players and ties after the first round will go forward to today's final round.

Miss Okamoto, a modest, quiet woman of 36, left it until the last tournament to overtake Betsy King, her main rival during the latter half of the season. Second place in the Mazda Japan Classic, in front of her own adoring supporters, took Miss Okamoto's earnings

to \$466,034 (about £262,000), just under \$6,000 ahead of Miss King.

Both women won four tournaments apiece over the year and although Miss Okamoto failed to win a major championship, she was runner-up in two of them, the Los Angeles Classic and the United States Women's Open.

She is a cult figure in Japan and her every move is logged by dozens of cameramen and journalists. Playing with Laura Davies, the eventual champion, in the United States Open, Miss Okamoto went into a bunker

on the back of the elevated second green and as she disappeared over the edge to examine her lie, her entourage swarmed forward, like after her, oblivious to everything and everyone else.

The object of all this attention admitted that at times she felt the Press distracted her but added: "It's all a state of mind. If they bother me, it shows I'm not concentrating and I shouldn't use them as an excuse."

In fact, Miss Okamoto, a native of Hiroshima, who has her own weekly slot on Japanese television, prefers playing in the United States because she is not mobbed everywhere she goes—only on the golf course.

Small and dark, with a smooth, silky swing and a magical way with a wedge, she has played more or less full time in America for seven years and in the course of this season became the fifteenth player to earn more than \$1 million.

It may not be quite enough to make the Americans say *ayumama* to supremacy, but she is now the most successful woman golfer in the world.

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	504	4	10	527	5
2	372	4	11	408	4
3	419	5	12	357	4
4	357	4	13	345	4
5	250	3	14	349	4
6	355	4	15	371	4
7	355	4	16	371	4
8	453	5	17	192	3
9	453	5	18	192	3
Total yardage: 6,761					
Par: 72					

final putt. "I would have putted out if the inside of the hole had been painted white as they normally are," he explained. "But after playing so well I didn't want to spoil the day for myself by missing a putt which would leave me within one shot of Sandy."

So Faldo returned at 7.30am yesterday before starting his second round at an hour later. His only lapse on Wednesday, during six hours on the course—the professionals are paired with four amateur partners during the first 36 holes—had been to

take three putts at the fourth.

Otherwise he was a model of consistency as the British challenge for the first prize of \$150,000 was strengthened by Ian Woosnam (68) and Howard Clark (71).

Five birdies in eight holes from the sixth transformed Faldo's score. He pitched close for two of them, at the long sixth and 10th holes, and he holed putts between 10 and 12 feet for the other three.

The Bay Course, which runs from the water's edge inland towards the West Maui mountains, suits Lyle's game. He won this tournament in 1984 and he established a record with a 64 during the Nissan Cup that same year.

Lyle's 65 could be considered as a new record because the 16th hole has been completely remodelled. In the past it offered a clear opportunity for a birdie whereas it now represents a severe challenge.

What bothered the early start-

ers—Clark had teed off first at 6.40, thirty minutes before the official sunrise—was the strength of the wind, which whipped across the course from the sea. For instance, it turned the opening hole into a true par five with the likes of Lyle, Clark and Faldo all failing to get up in two.

In fact Lyle managed to get to within 20 yards of the green, he pitched to two feet and from there he holed out for the first of his birdies. By the end of the round he had gathered birdies at each of the four par fives.

The hole which gave him the most satisfaction was the ninth, where he followed a one-iron tee shot with a fine nine-iron approach which left the ball six feet from the hole.

FIRST ROUND LEADERS (US unless stated): 65 A Lyle (GB), 66 A Bean (67), 67 B Lyle (68), 68 A Lyle (69), 69 A Lyle (70), 70 A Lyle (71), 71 A Lyle (72), 72 A Lyle (73), 73 A Lyle (74), 74 A Lyle (75), 75 A Lyle (76), 76 A Lyle (77), 77 A Lyle (78), 78 A Lyle (79), 79 A Lyle (80), 80 A Lyle (81), 81 A Lyle (82), 82 A Lyle (83), 83 A Lyle (84), 84 A Lyle (85), 85 A Lyle (86), 86 A Lyle (87), 87 A Lyle (88), 88 A Lyle (89), 89 A Lyle (90), 90 A Lyle (91), 91 A Lyle (92), 92 A Lyle (93), 93 A Lyle (94), 94 A Lyle (95), 95 A Lyle (96), 96 A Lyle (97), 97 A Lyle (98), 98 A Lyle (99), 99 A Lyle (100).

SECOND ROUND LEADERS (US unless stated): 68 B Shearer, 69 B Mackay, 70 B Shearer, 71 B Shearer, 72 B Shearer, 73 B Shearer, 74 B Shearer, 75 B Shearer, 76 B Shearer, 77 B Shearer, 78 B Shearer, 79 B Shearer, 80 B Shearer, 81 B Shearer, 82 B Shearer, 83 B Shearer, 84 B Shearer, 85 B Shearer, 86 B Shearer, 87 B Shearer, 88 B Shearer, 89 B Shearer, 90 B Shearer, 91 B Shearer, 92 B Shearer, 93 B Shearer, 94 B Shearer, 95 B Shearer, 96 B Shearer, 97 B Shearer, 98 B Shearer, 99 B Shearer, 100 B Shearer.

There are pictures of everything here: every incident and every person of cricketing note is recorded: often with pictures that have not been seen for years. Frith writes in his introduction: "Although it has been hinted that a prediction for pictures is a betrayal of the craft of words, I prefer to believe that the reality of a good photograph surpasses beyond calculation even man's most distinguished attempts at verbal description."

I can give this book no finer compliment than to say it is worth the money they are asking for it: £30 is a hefty price, but at one and a half pence per picture it still represents value.

Talking Horse, by Jeffrey Ber-

ard is a natural enemy to pomposity and pretension, which makes him slightly unusual in racing. He can write,

"They would slake their thirst

and five minutes later toss down more Gatorade. Everywhere you looked, you'd see wild-eyed guys slurping Gatorade and moving their jaws like an old man at gumming food and you knew they were ready to play."

The tone is lively, unrepentant and brutalizing. It projects Stabler as a great big bad mother: as such it is no more honest than the "muck" books. He is not big on his insecurities, you might say. But the book doesn't fludge, and is terrifically readable. It is the side of the game they don't show on television. Indeed, anything to do with American football that doesn't involve the presenters on Channel 4 must be a good thing.

The season's best researched book is certainly David Frith's *Penguin of Cricket*. It is a picture book: it contains 2,100 photographs, drawings and paintings, edited down from 10,000. It begins with a bat and ball picture from a thirteenth century manuscript and ends with a picture of England's Ashes-relaters.

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Lotus position is perfect for Piquet to express himself

By John Blunsden

Nelson Piquet's car will carry the number six for the last time on Sunday afternoon, when he takes part in the Australian Grand Prix, the final event of the 1987 Formula One season.

Next season, as the new world champion, he will be entitled to race with the coveted number one but this honour and distinction will be shared not with the Canon-Williams team with which he achieved his success, but with Camel-Lotus, to whom he announced his impending defection in August.

The last occasion a driver moved to a rival team immediately after securing the title was 10 years ago, when Niki Lauda, having scored his second world championship for Ferrari, moved to Brabham for the 1978 season. The following year he was joined there by a promising young Brazilian who called himself Nelson Piquet, although his real name was Nelson Souto Mayor.

A few months later, when Lauda staged his famous instant retirement act in Canada (he climbed out of his car after first practice and announced he was fed up with driving round in circles and was off to run his airline), the Brazilian, who had taken part in only 18 Grands Prix, found himself in the unexpected role of team leader.

He did well, outstandingly so, and became world champion in both 1981 and 1983. Although he won only three races in each of those years, he made it look so easy, which is the mark of a great driver. And yet, throughout his seven-year stay with the Brabham team, it remained difficult to accurately assess the

depth of his talent. He was seen to be at his formidable best on fast circuits, but was less effective on slow ones, which he openly admitted disliking.

But the biggest problem in evaluating his performances was the lack of an effective yardstick by which to make a judgement, because not only was Piquet the undisputed No. 1 in his team and therefore the recipient of all the back-up facilities he might desire, but he was rarely stretched on the track by his team colleagues, who often were little more than "no hope" drivers, who bought their seats in the cockpits with sponsors' hard cash.

The biggest unknown, therefore, was how much of Piquet's success was down to the driver and how much to his car. There were good Brabhams and bad Brabhams during his years with the team, and the good ones tended to be brilliant.

Only when Piquet moved to Williams at the end of 1985 was it possible to put his talent in perspective. Nigel Mansell was already there as No. 2 to Keke Rosberg, and as Piquet was to be Rosberg's replacement he slipped smoothly into the top slot, or so he thought. In fact, Mansell, who had just won his first Grand Prix and had immediately followed up with another, was now not only a front runner, but was getting better with every race.

For the first time in Formula One since Lauda's departure, Piquet had a team colleague capable of beating him. And he did not much care for it.

His last two seasons have been far from contented ones. Very much Honda's man, he felt that this and his official No. 1 status

should have guaranteed him much more than priority use of the team's spare car; he felt it also entitled him to be world champion. It didn't work out that way last year (though he came close) and who knows what would have happened this time but for Mansell's accident in Japan.

In several respects this must be the least satisfying of his titles. Once again he has gained three victories, but he cannot easily forget that Mansell won six, led four more races before retiring and at one point was first or second in the remainder, or that Mansell out-qualified him on nine occasions and started every race from the front row.

The method of Piquet's "resignation" from Williams (a note under Frank Williams's bedroom door) came as a shock, but his move to Lotus is probably the best thing that could have happened. A third season with Mansell and Piquet in the same team would have been counter-productive and possibly dangerous.

As it is, Piquet will once again enjoy undisputed No. 1 status, with Satoru Nakajima offering him no threat from the No. 2 Lotus seat. Perhaps he will be able to relax a little in his new environment and allow his love of driving, and especially of testing, which he enjoys with a passion, to bear richer fruit.

As his 1987 record reminds us (world championship points from 12 races, including seven second places), he is one of the most consistent drivers of all, with a highly developed sense of mechanical sympathy. He has also won 20 of his 140 Grands Prix, and one senses that there are a few more victories still to come.

Ishii takes two-shot early lead

Gutierrez, Japan (AP) — Hiroshi Ishii, the veteran Japanese player, scored a five-under-par 67 yesterday to take a two-shot lead over seven other players, including Tom Kite, of the United States, after the first round of the \$667,000 VISA Taiheiyō Club Masters tournament.

Ishii, aged 46, winner of nine tournaments in his career but without a victory so far this season, rolled in a 30-foot putt on the ninth for one of his six birdies. He took three putts at the 20th hole to drop his only shot on the 7,075-yard Guttemba course.

Kite had a 69 and was equal second with six Japanese. He finished his round with an eagle on the 517-yard 18th, where he sank a seven-foot putt. He also had two birdies. "I missed the hole on the 18th," he said. "I was a little off on the 18th, but I was a little better on the 19th."

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (Japan unless stated): 67 H Ishii (88), 68 M Ozaki, 69 M Hoshino, 70 S Nara, 71 S Nara, 72 S Nara, 73 S Nara, 74 S Nara, 75 S Nara, 76 S Nara, 77 S Nara, 78 S Nara, 79 S Nara, 80 S Nara, 81 S Nara, 82 S Nara, 83 S Nara, 84 S Nara, 85 S Nara, 86 S Nara, 87 S Nara, 88 S Nara, 89 S Nara, 90 S Nara, 91 S Nara, 92 S Nara, 93 S Nara, 94 S Nara, 95 S Nara, 96 S Nara, 97 S Nara, 98 S Nara, 99 S Nara, 100 S Nara.

LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES (Australian unless stated): 138 B Shearer, 69 B Mackay, 71 B Shearer, 72 B Shearer, 73 B Shearer, 74 B Shearer, 75 B Shearer, 76 B Shearer, 77 B Shearer, 78 B Shearer, 79 B Shearer, 80 B Shearer, 81 B Shearer, 82 B Shearer, 83 B Shearer, 84 B Shearer, 85 B Shearer, 86 B Shearer, 87 B Shearer, 88 B Shearer, 89 B Shearer, 90 B Shearer, 91 B Shearer, 92 B Shearer, 93 B Shearer, 94 B Shearer, 95 B Shearer, 96 B Shearer, 97 B Shearer, 98 B Shearer, 99 B Shearer, 100 B Shearer.

ADLAIDE: Two Australians, Bob Shearer and Roger Mackay, shared the lead yesterday after the second round of the South Australian Open (AFP reports). Shearer, a former Australian Open champion and winner of the event in 1984, scored a two-under-par 70, and was joined on 138 by Mackay, the new Australian PGA champion, who scored 67.

Jan Roberts, of Australia, was third, one shot behind the leaders, after taking 22 putts in his 66. Anders Sorenson, of Denmark, set a new course record with a 65. Sorenson started the day three over but picked up seven birdies on the front nine, including five consecutively, to finish equal fourth on 140 with Ronan Rafferty, of Northern Ireland.

Taylor plays Les Dodd this morning in the first session of their best-of-17 frames match. In all there will be play on six tables, one of them featuring Alex Higgins, who returns to the scene of his head-butting of Paul Hatherell, the tournament director a year ago, which then led to the five-tournament ban which ended on November 1. He plays Steve Duggan.

The total prize fund this time is £350,000 and Steve Davis, the world champion and No. 1, is, of course, the favourite to win the major share, having won the UK title five times in seven seasons, including the last three in succession. He begins his defence against Warren King, the Australian champion, today.

Taylor has amassed £170,000 in prizes in 10 weeks and, tongue in cheek, he is considering investing some of it in rail fares.

"I am beginning to think that while it is marvellous to be able to spend time with my wife Pat and our children during a tournament, perhaps it also takes the edge off my game. I might break the pattern if I moved to a London hotel for the fortnight and commuted."

Taylor plays Les Dodd this

OLYMPIC GAMES

S Korea receives 65 applications

Seoul (Reuters) — Sixty-five countries have so far confirmed that they will attend the 1988 summer Olympic Games, the organizers said yesterday.

There were no communist countries among the 65 which have formally accepted the invitations to the Games. The deadline for applications is January 17.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) sent the official invitations to a record 167 countries on September 17, exactly a year before the opening ceremony.

The 65 include 18 countries from Africa, 15 from Asia, 12 from Europe, 15 from South and North America and five from Oceania, the organizers said.

South Korea, which was awarded the Games in 1981, is yet to settle a bitter dispute with North Korea over staging the Olympics to avert any communist boycott of the games.

The communist North denounced in 1985 that the Games be shared between its capital Pyongyang and Seoul, capital of western-aligned South Korea, saying the Olympics belonged to all Koreans people.

Four rounds of talks between North and South Korea at IOC headquarters in Lausanne, failed to resolve the crisis.

In an effort to appease the North, the IOC and Seoul offered in July to hand over 10 of the 237 individual events, an offer North Korea called grossly inadequate.

TOKYO: North Korea yesterday said for the second time in less than a month, that it could compete in next year's Games — possibly as a joint-Korean team — if a democratic government was formed in South Korea (AFP reports).

If the Olympic Games were held under a democratic regime, the two sides would be able to flexibly discuss and solve the

hosting problem from the stand of promoting national unity, the North Korean Central News Agency said.

North Korean Olympic Committee chairman, Kim Yu-Sun, said last week that if a democratic force came to power in South Korea the presidential election on December 16, a single team could be formed.

Pyeongyang has demanded at least six sports, including the course football tournament and being named Olympic co-hosts, otherwise it will try to lead a boycott.

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Pyeongyang has demanded at least six sports, including the course

Australasia will consider joint staging of Cup

Melbourne (Agencies) — Australia and New Zealand are considering the possibility of staging the 1991 World Cup in both countries.

Australian Cricket Board chief executive, David Richards, said the two countries were conducting a feasibility study on the idea and would not make a final decision for some months.

"We've only just started scratching the surface on the practicality of it and it will be early next year before we come to a conclusion on whether to proceed in a detailed fashion," he said in a telephone interview.

Richards said the two countries had been talking about the idea before the recent World Cup, staged in India and Pakistan, which Australia won.

"Now having won it, it would be a bonus to be able to defend it on Australian soil," he said.

He acknowledged that the success of the two-country

Temporary calm at Warwickshire

By Ivo Tennant

For the time being, there should be few further internecine squabbles within Warwickshire Country Cricket Club. The chairman and the general committee were given a vote of confidence by members at the special meeting on Wednesday to continue running the club their way.

There were, though, few among those present prepared to bet against a third special meeting being called within the not too distant future. The committee was given its mandate by only 507 members.

A total of 450 members supported the motion of no confidence in the committee and there were the inevitable abstentions. The new chairman, Bob Evans, was left in no doubt that certain changes had to be made. He admitted as much in his speech, which did much to win the argument.

Irish plan gesture of thanks

Blotch on a perfect reputation

**From Colin McQuillan
New York**
Jahangir Khan's North American tour has not, so far, been an entirely happy experience.

Excluded from the Drakkard Noir Canadian Open championship after appearance-money rows, he reached the semi-finals of the 'Rolex' US Open in New York by beating Philip Kenyon, of England, in 45 minutes, but

collected in the process the first official warning of his distinguished playing career.

Played on the all-glass Telecourt mounted on the dance-floor of the Palladium during the US Open.

The first 10 points went to the world No. 1 in a single hand as

An accidental racket clash on the side wall and a completely missed forehand retrieve on the back wall showed Jahangir's own visibility problems and granted the Englishman a couple

Irish plan gesture of thanks

The second game was strangely different from the rest. Kenyon began to play a slow, lofted game, perhaps seeking to exploit the uneven shadows.

and he slowly built an 8-4 lead. Then the referee, Rod George, unrelentingly called double bounce on a pick-up Jahangir plainly considered clean.

A no-let call immediately after so surprised Khan that he

beat sternly upon the back wall with the butt of his racket. George's reaction was almost instantaneous: "That is a warning Jahangir," he proclaimed.

It was the unfortunate Kenyon who paid the price. Jahangir

QUARTER-FINALS: Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt P Kenyon (GB), 15-2, 10-16, 15-1, 15-4; Jansher Khan (Pak) bt C. Borchers (Aus).

9-15, 12-15, 15-11, 15-2, 15-13; C Dittmar (Aus) bt Q Zaman (Pak), 15-8, 15-4, 15-7; R Norman (NZ) bt R Martin (Aus), 14-17, 15-6, 17-16, 15-7.

RACKETS

Amateur pair take the final honours

FOOTBALL

SPANISH CUP: Third round, first leg: Sección Real Madrid 0, Lircos 0; Athletic Bilbao 2, Barcelona 2; Murcia 0; Huelva 1, Cadiz 3; Celta 1, Zaragoza 0; Castellón 1; Racing Santander 0, Valladolid 0; Osasuna 0, Valencia 0; Sevilla 0; Hercules 2, Espanol 3; Alouaras 1; Sabadell 0; Eldense 0; Real Betis

WILANDER surprise
Frankfurt — Niklas Kroon, a qualifier, defeated his countryman and top seed, Mats Wilander 7-5, 7-2 in the second round of the Volvo Open.

Wilander, 1-3, 6-3 in the second round of the Frankfurt Cup tennis tournament yesterday. Kroon, aged 17, needed little more than an hour to dispatch Wilander. "Kroon's play was unbelievable," Wilander said.

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1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

The Netherlands forfeit victory

Zurich (AP) — UEFA yesterday ruled that The Netherlands' 8-0 victory over Cyprus in a group five European Championship qualifying match on October 28, during which a smoke bomb was thrown at the Cypriot goalkeeper, should be forfeited, with the match awarded 3-0 to Cyprus.

The decision means that the Greece-Netherlands match on December 16 will decide which of the two teams will go to next year's finals in West Germany, with the Greeks needing to win. Previously The Netherlands were assured of qualification, although Cyprus remain out of the running.

However, Andre van der Louw, the vice-president of the

Dutch Football Federation, immediately announced that an appeal would be lodged with a UEFA jury.

In addition to the forfeiture, the UEFA panel announced that the Rotterdam stadium, where the game took place, will be barred from staging European games until July 31, 1990.

The Dutch Federation was also fined 10,000 Swiss francs (about £4,500), with the Cypriots fined 40,000 Swiss francs (about £18,000). The UEFA spokesman, Rudolf Rothenbuehler, said the reasoning behind the fines would be announced today.

Christos Triantafyllides, the president of the Cypriot

federation, said: "We are pleased and happy that our protest has been decided favourably. Hooliganism must be stopped by UEFA. The decision is a vindication." He added that a decision would be taken later whether the Cypriots would appeal against the fine, as the reasons behind it were not yet known.

The manager of The Netherlands, Rinus Michels, said on Dutch television yesterday: "From the sportsman's footballing point of view I find it extremely hard that something which has nothing to do with football can have such an effect. I also find it hard that Greece now have a better chance of going to West Germany."

The panel's decision was taken after reports had been submitted by the referee and the UEFA match observer.

● **MADRID:** The Real Madrid forward, Hugo Sanchez, had 11 stitches inserted in a head wound after being hit by a champagne bottle thrown by an opposing supporter during a Spanish Cup match against Sestao on Wednesday (Reuter reports).

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Netherlands	7	4	2	1	8	4	10
Greece	7	4	1	2	12	10	9
Poland	9	3	2	3	9	11	8
Hungary	7	3	0	4	12	11	6
Cyprus	7	1	1	5	8	11	3

REMAINING MATCHES: Dec 2: Hungary v Cyprus, Dec 12: Greece v Netherlands.

Argentina back on the agenda for England

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

England could yet warm up for the finals of the European Championship by taking on Argentina, the world champions.

The Football Association announced earlier this week that they felt it was "not the right time" for England to play here against the South Americans for the Rous Cup, and invited France to fill the place taken last May by Brazil. But no reply has yet been received and Ted Croker, the FA secretary, said yesterday that "time is running out."

He will contact the French authorities this weekend and if the answer is negative.

Photograph and more football on page 47

Argentina may again be seen as the most attractive opponents.

Croker admitted that "they have, in the light of the correspondence between ourselves and the Home Office being published, come back into the picture."

There would be few other suitable alternatives apart from the losers in tomorrow's decisive tie between Italy, the probable qualifiers from group two and Sweden. The other continental choices are either too weak, have reached the finals or are already on England's forthcoming schedule.

It will open in Israel in February and continue at home against The Netherlands in March. Portugal, who are no longer in contention for the European Championship,

are expected to act as hosts in April. A few days after the Rous Cup, England will travel, almost certainly to Switzerland.

Bobby Robson, who welcomed the initial proposal of a game against Argentina, has his eyes on establishing a fourth landmark on foreign fields. He feels that England, who had never won in Brazil until 1984 or in the Soviet Union until 1986 or in Yugoslavia until Wednesday night, could claim the European crown for the first time.

The stunning 4-1 victory in Belgrade Robson says has "put everybody in good heart and, without raving about it, we are quietly confident that we might have a chance." As he was speaking, moments after the flight home, he learned that the odds had been significantly improved by UEFA's seeding committee.

England's record in the European Championship qualifying competition, which cannot now be surpassed by any other nation, and in the last World Cup has earned them the right to lead one of the two groups of four teams next summer. The other will be headed by the hosts, West Germany.

The fear now is that the squad, who benefited so unmissably from their extended rest, will be suffering from mental fatigue if not physical injury when they arrive in Germany in June.

Bobby Robson revealed that some members of the party were "not fully fit on

Friday but had they been with their clubs, they would probably have played." If we hadn't had the weekend off, their appetites wouldn't have been so sharp either. Their freshness was self-evident. They were all ready to go for the throat.

"The officials travelling with us must have recognized that. They should be proud of the way we represented them because the players, after all, are from the Football League. Apart from everything else,

Qualifiers for 1988

HOSTS: West Germany
GROUP 1: Spain or Romania
GROUP 2: Italy or Sweden
GROUP 3: Soviet Union
GROUP 4: England
GROUP 5: The Netherlands or Greece
GROUP 6: Denmark
GROUP 7: Republic of Ireland

because we assemble so infrequently, we need time together for everybody to feel comfortable with each other."

He recalled that on the only other occasion his men were similarly given time to relax, four years ago, they won 3-0 in Hungary. But, as well as being trapped inside the unreasonably heavy and prolonged domestic programme, they will be summoned for half a dozen practice matches within four months.

Although Robson will retain most, if not all, of his squad, he intends to introduce one or two newcomers "because we may need them if we have a long run in the finals." Davis and Rocastle

are among the candidates, especially after their contribution to the under-21 side's 5-1 victory in midweek.

Robson pointed out that — as Beardsley did before the World Cup — a player could come rapidly into contention, but his line-up appears to be complete. Adams, who in Belgrade scored his first international goal, and Webb are the two pieces who have been fitted into a jigsaw that was almost flawless.

"We over-indulged and slackened off," Robson said, "and I was disappointed about the goal we gave away. If we had been losing and Barnes had missed that chance early in the second half, I would have gone on to the pitch and throttled him. He must sustain his performances but he is becoming a true international player."

His mission complete, England's manager looked back on a memorable trip to Yugoslavia with both the under-21 and senior sides. "If we had lost those two games by the same margin, 9-2, everybody would have said that we are short on technique and the tactics are wrong. But we were in a different class to one of the nations we have always admired."

Off duty for a couple of months, he can afford to enjoy the view from the top of the European merit table. In the distance he can see England collecting their first trophy for 22 years and the first ever to be gained on foreign soil.

Welcome to English supporters

By Ian Stafford

The England and West German Football authorities will shortly begin summit meetings to discuss security arrangements for next year's European Championship.

German football and police authorities believe that they will be able to handle any problems that England football supporters could cause, and although the English FA

will keep close tabs on all crowd control measures, they foresee no trouble as tickets are expected to be available on the day England play their matches.

"English supporters were well-behaved at the Spain and Mexico World Cups. I expect the same for the European championship in West Germany," Ted Croker, the FA's

secretary, said. "I do not consider the security problem so great concerning tournaments."

"Supporters are more conservative in spending their money because they will have to stay for 15 days if England make the final. They will then have to cut back on buying alcohol. We have faced problems in the past, but I firmly believe that there is now a huge public awareness that it is terribly important to behave at matches, especially at the European Championship."

"It seems unlikely that most of the matches will be played to capacity crowds, so it is expected that tickets will be sold on the day of a match. If our successful control of crowd trouble continues at home I am hoping English clubs will be allowed back into European competition next spring before the international tournament begins."

Croker is aware, however, that UEFA will not hesitate to take damaging action if there is any sign of hooliganism, made plain yesterday by its decision to overturn a match won against Cyprus.

"We know we will be on a knife-edge and, even if our clubs are invited back to Europe next year, we can easily be banned again."

"At present we do not know

whether the FA or agents will be distributing tickets, but we have an assurance that they will not be given to agents without our permission. We do not intend to tell the Germans how to run their competition, but we are strongly suggesting that closed circuit television after its success at the friendly match between England and West Germany in September in Disseldorf, should be incorporated at other grounds."

Les Walker, the FA's advisor on crowd control, and Croker will meet with their German counterparts to look at the stadiums England will use, at Disseldorf, Frankfurt and Stuttgart.

There is a feeling of confidence within West Germany. "We will be in close contact with the English by the New Year with regards to security measures and we are sure we will cope with any problems that may present themselves," Wilfried Gerhard, the general secretary of the West German Football Association, said.

"The match in Disseldorf in September proved very successful and we are delighted England will be competing."

His sentiments were echoed by the German police. "We have never seen much trouble here, but we will be well-prepared just in case," a senior officer of the Disseldorf police force said.

Norwich City agree to £400,000 fee for Fleck

Norwich City have agreed a £400,000 fee with Rangers for unsettled forward, Robert Fleck. But the deal for the 22-year-old must be delayed as Rangers first want to complete a signing of their own, before releasing Fleck for any move away from Ibrox.

Earlier this week, Fleck had talks with the Watford manager, Dave Bassett.

● Carlisle United have dismissed their manager, Harry Gregg, only a week after the board had declined his offer of resignation.

● Lincoln City and Barnet will be told next week the result of yesterday's Football Association inquiry into their GM Vauxhall Conference match last month, when police had to separate players who were fighting on the pitch (Paul Newman writes).

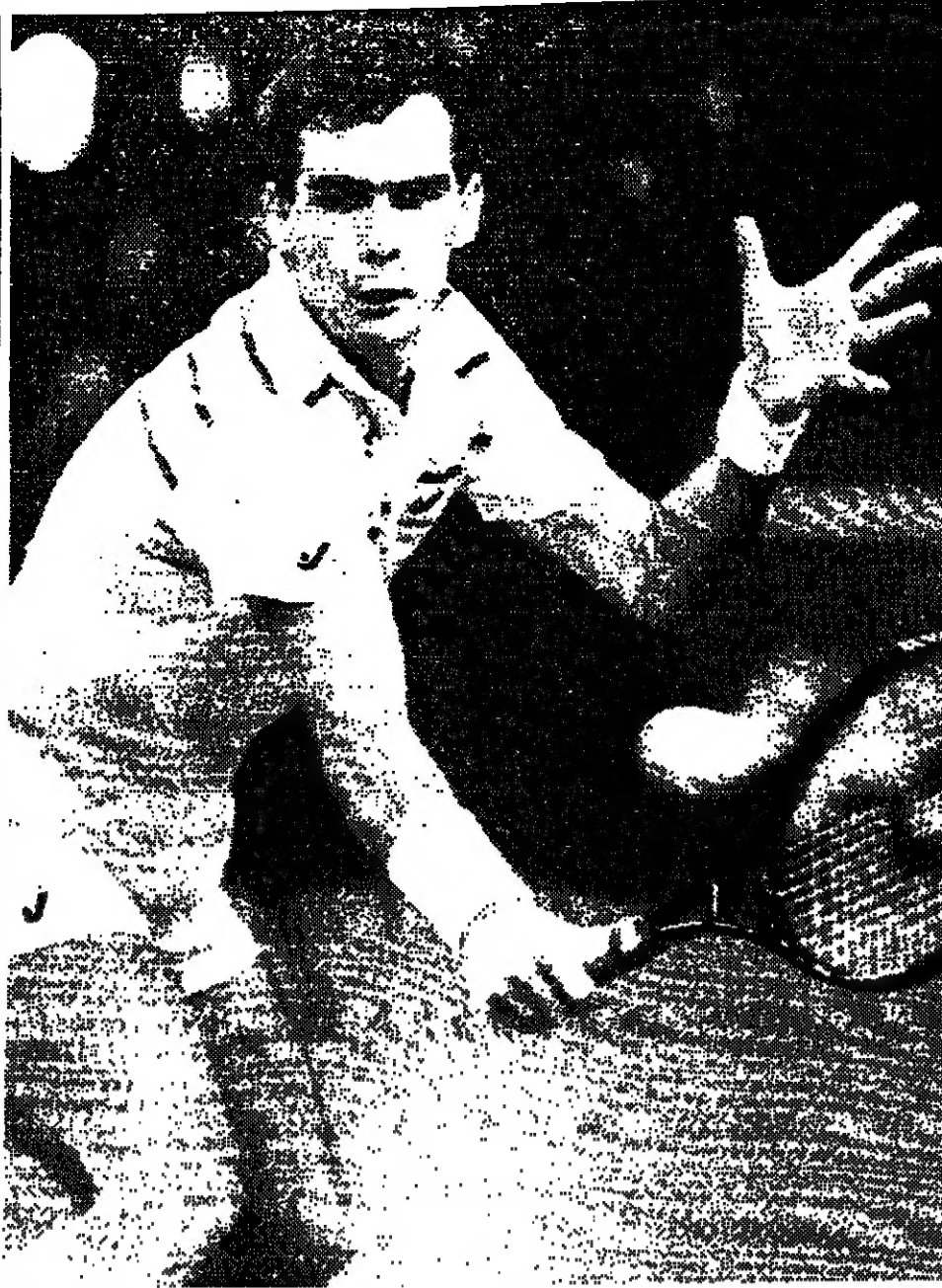
A three-man disciplinary

commission watched a video recording of the incident and heard evidence from the referee and representatives of the police and the two clubs.

● The former Queen's Park Rangers and Chelsea midfielder, Mike Fillery, is up for sale four months after Alan Ball signed him for Portsmouth. Fillery is among nine players transfer-listed by Ball on Tuesday.

● Bradford City, the second division leaders, yesterday signed the 18-year-old Liverpool reserve defender, Steve Staunton, on a month's loan.

● The Football League's anti-hooligan committee meeting at Goodison Park yesterday firmly rejected the recent suggestion of the Sports Minister, Colin Moynihan, calling for the breathalysing of supporters.



Easy winner: Paul Annacone, a straight sets Wembley victor (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

A Muscovite founders without all flags flying

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Pat Cash, who is unusual among Wimbledon champions in that he ranks only seventh in the world, advanced to the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges championships by beating Andrei Chesnokov 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 in a commonplace, rather listless match at Wembley yesterday.

Both men often gave the impression that they had played more than enough tennis for one year.

There were many misfires, especially from the Muscovite. Maybe he had been disconcerted by the absence of the Soviet Union's flag from the array round the court. The official reason for the deficiency is that no great effort is made to match flags with competitors. The unofficial reason is that the Soviet flag had never been needed at Wembley before and may never be needed there again.

Even if the tournament continues — a prospect clouded by the promotion of a rival event in Stuttgart during the same week next year — we cannot be sure that Soviet players will stay on the circuit once the Olympics are over. The brashly commercial private enterprise of professional tennis hardly fits in with the priorities of their political bosses.

Chesnokov, aged 21, has deeply set eyes, looks bashfully boyish, and has the weary walk of some soldier in a retreating army. If there is any aggressive self-confidence within him, he hides it well. He is a shy, charming man and his game — when more finely tuned than it was yesterday — is methodical and remorselessly tidy.

Manukova defeated Hester Witvoet, the No. 3 seed from The Netherlands, 6-4, 7-6 after a fascinating baseline battle and Medvedeva reached her second final in a fortnight by dominating Catrin Jesell, of Sweden 6-0, 6-4.

Joy Tacon, of Norfolk, joined Pascale Etchemendy, of France, in the doubles final with a 5-7, 7-5, 7-5 win over Ingrid Peltzer and Pamela Wallenfels, of West Germany. SEMI-FINALS: N Medvedeva (USSR) bt A Jarryd (Swe), 6-0, 6-4; E Manukova (USSR) bt H Witvoet (Neth), 6-4, 7-6.

The administration of British sport reached its lowest ebb last night with the acrimonious breakdown of funding negotiations between the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) and the Sports Council (Ian Stafford writes).

The Sports Council's contribution to the CCPR's 1986/7 budget and their general funding obligation has failed to reach an agreement and the CCPR will now invoke the arbitration procedure set out between the two organizations in 1972. The CCPR has instructed its lawyers to take immediate action.

In wider terms, the CCPR has decided to attack what it sees as a reduction in its grants and power by the Sports Council. It plans to submit an explanation of the composition and responsibilities of governing bodies, with emphasis on the value for money and voluntary service they create, to Mrs Thatcher. Neil Kinnoch and David

Steel. "It is incomprehensible that the Government and Sports Council should seek to frustrate the development of sport devised by the governing bodies," Peter Lawson, the CCPR's general secretary, said.

The Government expressed its disappointment at the CCPR's decision. "I am very concerned to hear that negotiations have broken down," Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, said.

French in the wars

Bruce French, the England wicketkeeper, needed stitches above his left eye after being hit by a spectator's return in practice in Lahore yesterday, and his bad luck did not end there. A car struck his legs when he arrived at hospital — and then he banged his head on a light fitting after the original treatment.

His chances of being fit for tomorrow's opening fixture are rated as 50-50 by manager Micky Stewart.

Double treat

Riyadh, (Reuter) — Diego Maradona scored twice for Al-Ahli, of Saudi Arabia, as they beat Broendby of Denmark 5-2 in a friendly match on Wednesday.

Firm stance

Barry McGuigan yesterday scotched rumours that he had immediate plans to return to boxing. "My decision stands that I will make no decision until the end of the year whether or not I will box again."

Master touch

New York, (Reuter) — Boris Becker, the double finalist and Jimmy Connors, the 1978 champion, are the fifth and sixth players to qualify for the Masters tournament.

Club stumped

Somerset County Cricket Club have lost their main sponsor of the last three years, Woolca Lambskins, who are to concentrate on marketing exports.

END COLUMN

Playing the wrong game

By Mike Fennell

President of the Jamaican Olympic Association

The decline of British influence in international sport is a matter of concern to all countries, not just to Britain, and the committee set up by the Central Council of Physical Recreation to investigate the reasons for that decline will have to ask itself some searching and tough questions. Last week I was invited from Jamaica by the CCPR to help pose some of those questions.

My comments should not be taken as commands, or even as criticisms. I would not be so impolite. They are suggestions based on the premise that Britain wants to try to re-establish the position in international sports leadership it held for so many years.

Britain has a natural instinct for order and fair play, which the world still respects. It has produced a number of great sports leaders, from the Marquis of Exeter to Sir Denis Flaherty, but look around now and there are fewer and fewer candidates in a position to perpetuate these virtues. Why is that?

Perhaps it is a matter of attitude. There are many people who feel that Britain is not showing sufficient interest in international sport. The balance of power is changing in world sport and I am not sure Britain has realized that fully.

It is no longer a question of sitting on the outside and hoping to maintain your influence; you have to go out into the world and, to use a current sporting term, get stuck in.

It was not just a coincidence that, whereas Barcelona could rely on support from virtually all the Spanish-speaking countries in the world, Birmingham could not count on support from its former colonies. Juan Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, has visited almost every country in the Olympic movement over the past few years. He has established a strong emotional contact and a relationship which he uses to the fullest.

British administrators, I think, regard such lobbying as "not cricket" but in the world of international sport it is now



Fennell: "get stuck in"

a fact of life. I did not know, for example, that Sheffield was bidding for the World Student Games in 1991. Perhaps that tells you something.

Sports leaders not only have to see but have to be seen. The new style of leadership in sport is based on charisma and style. That does not mean there has to be compromise on standards, far from it, but with more countries exerting more influence on international committees you have to work that much harder, travel that much more frequently and lobby that much stronger to establish your reputation. Britain has to decide whether it wants to play the game by those rules.

As a country, I think Britain still tends to regard sports administration as something done in your spare time. It is a perfectly valid point of view, but it will not win friends and influence people.

Like it or not, sport is a way of exercising political influence and it is naive to believe otherwise. Yet sport seems to get limited Government funds and even more limited support.

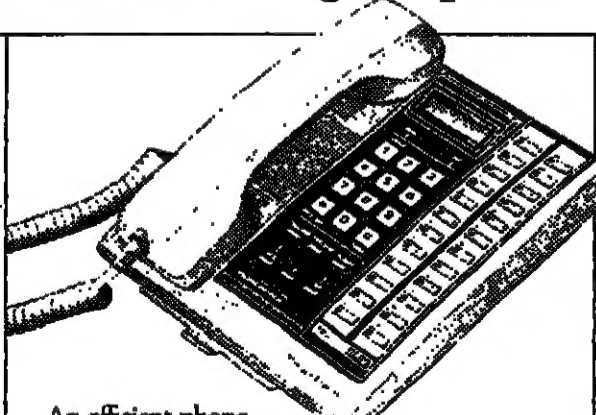
The Commonwealth Games last year was a supreme example. The boycott could perhaps — and I stress the word "perhaps" — have been avoided with slightly less of the "take it or leave it" attitude.

The Government's hard line on South Africa has made it very difficult, but that has made it even more important for your sports leaders to go out and market their position positively in terms of what they can contribute to sport, not just to sit back and complain.

It is an unfortunate fact of life that Governments are now supporting their sports leaders to take up certain positions and it is naive to think otherwise.

Perhaps you have waited too long for Mohammed to come to the mountain and now is the time for the mountain to move. Britain brought sport to the world, but it cannot expect to hang on to it for ever.

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